

THE TIMES Monday

Feud... Salman Rushdie, Booker Prize winner for his novel of India, *Midnight's Children*, has focused his new book on Pakistan, against the background of the feud between President Zia and executed Prime Minister Bhutto. As Karachi erupts again, Spectrum presents the first of three extracts from *Shame*, to be published next month.



...for Sport
The start of the football season, the Fourth Test, the Dutch Grand Prix, athletics in Cologne, 11 race meetings, showjumping at Hickstead - it's the biggest sporting weekend of the year.
Hare today...
Modern Times doggedly pursues the delights of greyhound racing.

Pound slips against the dollar

The pound lost ground against a strong dollar yesterday, slipping 65 points to close at \$1.5015, having fallen below \$1.50 at one stage.

However, it recovered against continental currencies Page 11

Court challenge on 'open skies'

The High Court has granted British Airways the right to challenge the Government's "open skies" policy designed to encourage airline competition. A hearing is expected in October Page 2

Escape control

After discovering a warren of escape tunnels under a camp housing Arab prisoners at Ansar, south Lebanon, the Israeli Army has moved all 5,000 inmates to a temporary compound until a permanent camp is completed Page 6

Cardinal ill

Cardinal Terence Cooke, aged 62, Archbishop of New York, is terminally ill with leukaemia and could die within "a matter of months", the archdiocese announced.

Angola mission

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, UN Secretary General, met a bizarre reception in Luanda, Angola, as he arrived for talks on Namibia Page 6

Petrol stamps

Trading stamps which can be redeemed against package holidays are to be offered at 400 garages and filling stations in Wales and the West Country Page 3

Jails threat

Prison officers in Northern Ireland are threatening an overtime ban which will mean police being drafted in on Monday to run jails. Kidnap victim freed Page 2

Scientific talks

The meetings on the last day of the conference on the British Association for the Advancement of Science are reported on page 4.

Sind violence

All police have been cancelled in Sind province as the Pakistani authorities prepare for a possible third week of violent demonstrations Page 6

Cook triumphs

Spin bowler Nick Cook put England in a commanding position in the fourth Cornhill Test match yesterday as he cut through the New Zealand first innings Report, page 16

Leader page 9

Letters: On BAOR, from Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeech, and Mr M Chichester, Lord's pictures, from Mr E W Swanton. Leading articles: Mr Steel and the Liberals; Madrid conference; British earthquakes. Features, page 8

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Soviet deal depends on Nato retreat over cruise

Andropov offers to destroy SS20s moved from Europe

From Richard Owen, Moscow

President Andropov has offered to "liquidate a considerable number" of Soviet SS20 missiles as part of an overall agreement on the reduction of medium-range missiles in Europe.

His move came in an interview in today's issue of *Pravda*, released in advance by Tass. He said that provided the US did not deploy new missiles in Europe in December, the Soviet Union would reduce the number of medium-range missiles in Europe to the level equal to the number of missiles of Britain and France.

In doing so it would "liquidate all the missiles to be reduced", including a "considerable number of the most modern missiles, known in the West as SS20s".

Mr Andropov said his offer showed that Nato allegations that Russia would merely re-locate its missiles in the Soviet far east were "totally groundless". There were therefore no grounds whatever for fears expressed by China and Japan.

Diplomats said the Kremlin had previously only undertaken to remove its missiles beyond the Urals, not to destroy them.

Mr Andropov described his latest initiative as being of "exceptional importance" and a

"new manifestation of good will" by the Soviet Union.

Western diplomats commented that although the offer held out some hope of progress at the Geneva talks, which resume on September 6, it was still conditional on a Nato agreement not to deploy cruise and Pershing 2 weapons and on the inclusion of British and French missiles in the talks. Both Soviet standpoints have been rejected repeatedly by the Western powers.

Mr Andropov offered last December to balance medium-range missiles against the nuclear forces of Britain and France, which Nato regards as independent deterrents.

He subsequently clarified this to mean that Moscow would count missile warheads rather than launchers, a bone of contention at Geneva, since SS20s have three independently-targeted warheads.

In the *Pravda* interview Mr Andropov dismissed claims that Washington had shown flexibility at Geneva, saying this was a "mockery of common sense".

If Russia reduced its medium-range missiles while allowing Nato to move new missiles into Europe to balance against the remaining Soviet rockets "we would not only

have unilaterally reduced our arsenal... but also have given our blessing to new American missiles targeted against us and our allies."

The Soviet leader gave no hint of what measures Moscow would take if the Geneva talks broke down and the Nato deployments went ahead in December.

Mr Andropov said an agreement at Geneva was still possible. One would not have to wait long if Nato was prepared for an agreement on equal terms, he said.

He indicated that he saw no reason to include China or Japan in the talks, since missile deployments in the eastern part of Russia were "completely irrelevant" to their subject matter.

Diplomats said further Soviet manoeuvring could be expected before the early resumption of the Geneva talks requested by Moscow.

The offer to destroy some SS20s was an advance on the position taken in April by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, who said that whether SS20s would be relocated or destroyed would be a matter for negotiation.

Japan rearms, page 4
Malta sidestepped, page 9
Leading article, page 9



Man and missile: President Yuri Andropov and the SS20, a "considerable number" of which he has promised to destroy.

Challenge yachts get 'all clear'

From David Miller, Newport, Rhode Island

The New York Yacht Club yesterday climbed down on all controversial points involving the Australian and British yachts involved in the America's Cup challenge series elimination finals to commence tomorrow.

A statement issued by Mr Robert Stone, the commodore of the prestigious NYCC, which has held the trophy for 130 years, said that all matters were resolved.

This statement brings to a close a period of sustained hostility conducted by NYCC against the foreign challengers, which has caused more ill-feeling than any of the controversies which have been a feature of the competition down the years.

It said questions relating to the keels of Australia II and Victory 33, and their design, had been resolved. The Americans had protested that the winged keel of the Australian yacht, and its partial copy by the British, gave the boats an illegal advantage.

"We have now received verification from the international Yacht Racing Union that an interpretative ruling respecting the design of the British keel was issued in 1982", Mr Stone said. "That ruling under the IYR regulations is controlling for the 1983 match and the NYCC accepts it as such - also that the ruling applies to the keel of Australia II."

Elimination races page 15

Steel attacked over dictatorial approach

By Anthony Berins, Political Correspondent

One of Mr David Steel's prime adversaries in his confrontation with Liberal activists yesterday accused his leader of adopting a "dictatorial, Thatcher-type" approach to the party.

Mr Tony Greaves, full-time organising secretary for the Association of Liberal Councilors, said that in the past, when the party had been smaller, the leader had been elevated out of all proportion to the point at which he had been regarded as a Prime Ministerial figure within the party.

But Mr Greaves commented in an interview on BBC radio's *World at One* programme: "Liberalism is about cooperation, developing a consensus and leadership by example and motivation, and not the dictatorial Thatcher-type leadership."

"The problem is that we have got to match the two together. The time has come to develop a much more cooperative leadership."

In a letter this week to the 16 other Liberal MPs, Mr Steel illustrated complaints about party indiscipline and "sloppiness" by citing a bulletin produced by the association during the general election.

According to Mr Steel, when the party's General Election committee attempted to block publication of the bulletin, which highlighted Alliance policy deviations from the Liberal line, they were told that Mr Greaves had threatened to resign and to go on television to denounce the Alliance package.

Mr Steel demands in his confidential letter: "Has he been fired for disgraceful conduct?"

Mr Greaves said yesterday: "I don't know where he gets this from. There was never any question of the publication of that mailing being stopped. It was never discussed."

Mr Steel's letter also provoked stern criticism yesterday from some of his parliamentary colleagues. Mr Cyril Smith, MP for Rochdale, who was criticized for refusing a portfolio post in the Liberal team, said that one of the reasons why he was pushing for the election of a deputy leader was that there should be greater consultation within the parliamentary party.

"No one works harder than David Steel", Mr Smith said. "The problem is that he hasn't the time to do the consultation. His contact with colleagues is very limited indeed."

Yet when Mr Steel had dealt with the deputy leadership and chairmanship possibilities in his letter, Mr Smith said he had referred to the danger of creating more "chiefs than Indians".

The tone of Mr Steel's letter is summed up in just three sentences. He says: "Those who want us just to play politics had better clear out now."

"I am certainly willing and indeed keen to continue as leader, but only on the basis that the party itself is gearing its efforts to offering an alternative government to Mrs Thatcher at the next general election."

"If it wants to pander on the sidelines, I will be happy to remain as a loyal member, but not to continue indefinitely as leader."

Leading article, page 9

John Brown to make 500 redundant

By Andrew Cornelius

John Brown, the troubled engineering group, yesterday announced that 500 employees are to be made redundant among the 1,700 at its gas turbine division at Clydebank, near Glasgow, voted decisively against taking industrial action.

The 3-2 (328-195) vote in a secret ballot at Cardowan influenced a later meeting of the South Wales executive of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), which was called to discuss the closure of the Brynllw pit, near Swansea. This offered a muted "invitation" to the men at the pit to back industrial action when they meet next Wednesday.

National Coal Board (NCB) officials decided on a quick closure of the two mines, which

Miners vote to accept closure

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Coal industry leaders were confident last night that their swift action in closing two pits had defused any threatened militancy after miners at the doomed Cardowan colliery, near Glasgow, voted decisively against taking industrial action.

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National Coal Board (NCB) officials decided on a quick closure of the two mines, which

together employ 1,400 miners, after rejecting final appeals by the NUM. Production at Cardowan ceased last night and salvage work will start on Monday.

Cardowan, the last remaining pit in Lanarkshire was earmarked for closure by the NCB because of geological difficulties, and a collapse in markets that meant the pit was heading for a £10m loss this year.

Miners have been offered redundancy, early retirement or offered jobs in the Fife coalfield, with about 150 of the 800 at the pit being kept on for the salvage work. The NCB said last night that it was pleased by the vote and would now concentrate on beating miners to other jobs. Miners with up to 35 years' service could qualify for £25,000 pay-offs with about £100 a week until they reach retirement age.

A special meeting of the South Wales NUM executive heard the Cardowan vote before taking its decision and was influenced by the news from Scotland, according to Mr Emyln Williams, the South Wales union president.

He said that if the 639 Brynllw miners call next Wednesday for industrial action, they will have full union backing.



Mr Emyln Williams: Miners' action will be backed

Shopkeeper's 17 'disasters'

Unluckiest man in France

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The insurance companies have dubbed him the most disaster-prone person in France. Over the past three years, M Baenard Achieriaux, a 38-year-old shopkeeper from Puy in the Auvergne, has suffered 17 disasters, not one of which was his fault.

His bad luck began on September 20, 1980, when the Loire burst its banks, flooding the Puy area and devastating several acres of his woods.

Two months later, his car was struck by another while parked by the side of the road.

A few weeks after that, it caught fire and was then stolen on four different occasions, each time being returned even more badly damaged. Twice, a lorry dumped its entire load on his bonnet.

He bought a cement mixer to do repairs on his house, only it was crushed by a car whose driver had lost control.

Even his billiard table was smashed to bits after being dropped by a removal firm. At around the same time, he suffered his fourteenth bone fracture while playing rugby.

Last November, his chimney and part of his roof were blown off. Then, in March this year, he was subjected to long hours of questioning by the police, after a professor committed suicide in the cellar of his shop. Finally, a large part of his woods were destroyed by fire this summer.

"From now on, I'm no longer going to walk under ladders, and when I see a black cat, I'll cross to the other side of the road. With such bad luck one can no longer afford to make a mistake," M Achieriaux said.

Illingworth wants to quit Yorkshire fray

By Richard Streeton

Yorkshire cricket was threatened with its biggest turmoil so far when Raymond Illingworth offered to resign as captain and manager yesterday. He was sick and tired, he said, of the "aggro" he and his family have had since returning to the county, and he specifically mentioned in this context the pro-Boycott faction.

"If Yorkshire will pay me up on my contract I will leave now", he said at Scarborough before the start of Yorkshire's match with Gloucestershire. "I do not see why I should be playing first-class cricket at 51 to try to help Yorkshire and at the same time have to put up

with a constant barrage of attacks from Boycott supporters."

Illingworth's outburst followed a demand from Sid Fielden, a Yorkshire committee member and Barnsley detective sergeant, that the club's general committee investigate what was termed, in a letter to Yorkshire's chairman, Michael Crawford, "an unsolicited attack on Boycott". This was a reference to Illingworth's action in reporting Boycott to the club for slow scoring in a game at Cheltenham 10 days ago.

Boycott was later reprimanded by Yorkshire's so-called peacekeeping committee,



Illingworth: 'Constant barrage of attacks'

though Boycott's supporters felt that both the original complaint and the reprimand were unjustified. Illingworth has since been barracked by York-

TV-am takes peak breakfast ratings lead

TV-am's ratings revolution, induced by Roland Rat, pushed the commercial station in front of its BBC rival, Breakfast Time, for the first time during peak breakfast viewing last week.

Figures produced by BARB, the independent ratings analysts, gave TV-am a peak audience of 1.2 million before 9am, 100,000 more than the BBC programme.

Mr Greg Dyke, TV-am's editor-in-chief, acknowledged that the lead was due to the station's popularity with schoolchildren, largely through the puppet character, Roland Rat.

Holidaymakers see pilot's death plunge

An RAF pilot died yesterday after guiding his stricken jet away from hundreds of holidaymakers on the east coast.

Crowds on Scarborough's North Bay beach watched as the Lightning plunged into the sea 200 yards off-shore.

Eye-witnesses said that the aircraft, from RAF Binbrook in Lincolnshire, had made several low-level passes over the beach when its engines failed.

An RAF spokesman said that the pilot's name would not be released until next of kin had been informed. Meanwhile, Britain looked all set for its busiest Bank Holiday on the roads, with millions of people heading for the coast, the Automobile Association predicted yesterday.

British Rail also expecting considerable demand, and is running 300 extra trains over the Bank Holiday.

The warm British weather seems to be having some unusual repercussions. Thousands of Britons are heading for the Continent, apparently in search of cool breezes.

The British Airports Authority said it expected about 560,000 passengers through Heathrow and Gatwick over the weekend. A British Airways official said: "It is hot over here, but there still seem to be a lot of people who want to get away from it all." They could be seeking cooler weather, he suggested. Weekend temperatures in Britain should be in the high 70s F.

More than 150 police reinforcements were being drafted on the Isle of Wight yesterday to help cope with an expected influx of 8,000 "Mods". All island police leave has been cancelled for the Mods' annual rally.

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Holiday trading stamps may step up garage price war

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Trading stamps are to return to garage forecourts, at a time when the big oil companies are reviewing their marketing and pricing policy.

Anglo Petroleum, which has 400 filling stations in Wales and the West Country, are to give Holiday Stamps with petrol. The stamps can be redeemed only against package holidays offered by travel agents and companies that belong to the Association of British Travel Agents. The stamps can be used for British-based and foreign holidays and the average family motorist should be able to collect enough stamps to obtain a 5% discount on a package holiday within 10 to 15 weeks.

Motorists will receive the stamps at between 1 and 3 pence of the price of the goods they buy, depending on the contract price agreed between the petrol company and Holiday Stamps.

However, if other petrol chains adopt stamps, though

Comedian and wife clash over children

A courtroom battle erupted yesterday between the Scottish comedian, Billy Connolly, and his estranged wife Iris over the custody of their two children.

Allegations were made by lawyers for each side at the court of session in Edinburgh where Mrs Connolly, 36, applied for interim custody of their son Jamie, aged 13 and their daughter Cara, aged nine.

The comedian's lawyer accused Mrs Connolly of being unfit to look after the children because of her heavy drinking, her associations with other men and the "distressing state" of her house.

In turn, her agent claimed that Mr Connolly had spent three weeks in a monastery recovering from a drink problem last year.

Lord Robertson said that although the allegations made in court were serious, none of them had been put before the court in the divorce action. He made no order, and gave each side seven days to put their allegations in writing.

In the meantime the children will remain in London with their father who lives with the entertainer, Miss Pamela Stephenson.

Mr Connolly was not represented in court at the start of the case, and Lord Robertson said that he would grant the motion for interim custody. Seconds later Mr Charles Boag-Thomson, QC, appeared to oppose the move and the case went ahead.

Mr Boag-Thomson alleged that Mr Connolly was a wholly unsuitable person to have custody. "The position is that over a period of years this woman has taken to drinking to excess, being in a state of intoxication on numerous occasions during the day to an extent whereby the children have not been properly looked



Mr Connolly (right) with his lawyer, Mr Len Murray, yesterday

Drink-drive detective dismissed

A detective who escaped a driving ban after claiming he had been drinking under orders when he crashed his car was dismissed yesterday.

Det Constable Wyn Dunn, aged 38, was required to resign under the police discipline code after appearing before the Chief Constable of North Wales at Colwyn Bay.

The North Wales force is appealing against the decision of Mold magistrates not to ban Mr Dunn from driving when he was convicted of a drink-driving offence a month ago. It will ask the High Court if it was correct in law.

Mr Dunn was given a breath test after his unmarked police car hit a lamp post on the main coast road at Bagillt, Clwyd, in May.

When he appeared before the magistrates he escaped a driving ban because of what was described as exceptional circumstances surrounding the case. He was fined £120.

His solicitor told the court that Mr Dunn had been chosen because of his devotion to duty to take part in a special undercover operation in North Wales. Part of his brief was to drink and socialize in public houses and clubs in an attempt to get information.

The chairman of the magistrates, Mr Charles Quant, said special duties had put Mr Dunn at risk of drinking beyond the legal limit and he should not be disqualified.

Power line avoids bees

A 66,000-volt electricity supply line is being diverted around beehives owned by Mr Albert Hooper, aged 72, to avoid disturbing the insects.

He had complained about Midlands Electricity Board plans to site a pole near his beehives at Chadwick Bank, near Sturport-on-Severn, Hereford and Worcester.

Compulsive car thief told to talk to psychiatrist

A man described in court as a compulsive car thief was yesterday ordered to talk about his crimes with a psychiatrist.

David Crisison will be shown a car and then discuss with doctors why he wants to steal them.

It is believed to be the first time such treatment has been ordered for an offender, the court heard.

Crisison, aged 27, was caught trying to steal an off-duty policeman's car in Hyde Park last April. It was stated at Southwark Crown Court.

The recorder, Mr Colin Hart-Leverton, told him: "You cannot seem to keep your hands off other people's cars; you are a compulsive car thief with a vast record."

"Normally I would send you to prison, but no sentence in the past has stopped you. I think this treatment would help. It is the first time it will be used to solve a criminal problem."

He wished Dr Barry Brown, a psychiatrist, luck with the experiment.

Crisison, of South Cromwell Road, south Kensington, west London, admitted attempted theft and was put on probation for a year on condition he sought help from Dr Brown.

After the hearing, Dr Brown said: "This treatment will work by showing him a car and talking to him about why he wants to steal it. It is called exposure with response prevention."

He added that the treatment, which should be effective within two years, was widely used in psychiatry for compulsive problems.

'Sexist' lager firm barred from beer show

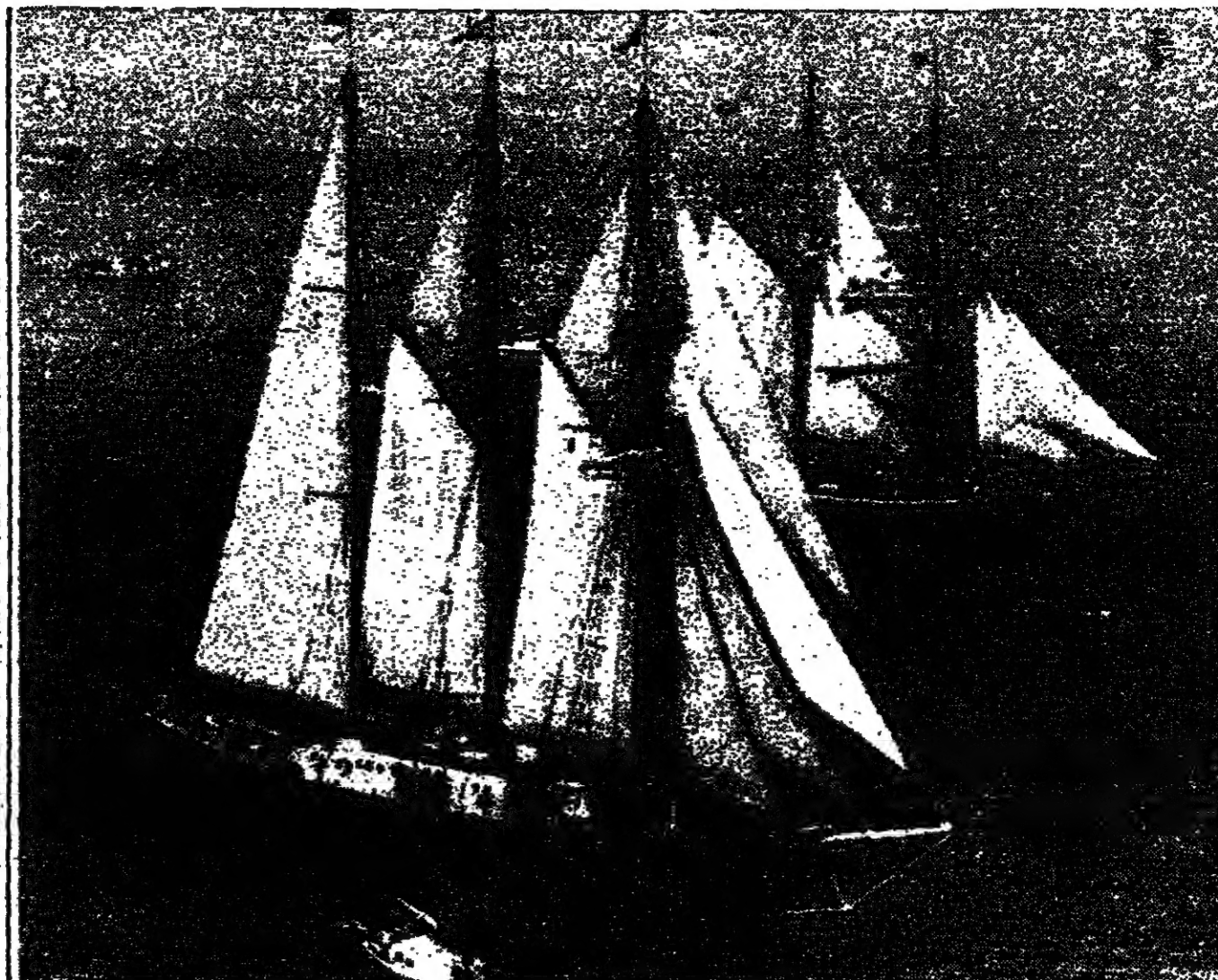
One of Britain's biggest breweries has been banned from taking part in the Great British Beer Festival in Birmingham next month because of a "sexist" promotion.

The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA), which organizes the annual event, has ordered Watney Mann and Truman Brewery to stay away from the festival.

A survey published by the brewery claimed that women thought lager drinkers were sexier, better educated and drove faster cars than beer drinkers.

Mr Tony Mills, national chairman of CAMRA, said yesterday that Watney's attempt to equate sexual performance with the type of drink a man preferred had offended CAMRA's many women members.

A Watney's spokesman said: "We feel a mixture of disappointment and astonishment that CAMRA should do this. This is an over-reaction to the light-hearted research study."



Tall story: The Sir Winston Churchill in the foreground in close company with a competitor at the start of the Tall Ships Race at Weymouth, Dorset yesterday

Sick baby died after 'slip of pen'

A four-day-old child with meningitis, died in hospital after receiving 12 times the normal dose of antibiotic because of a doctor's "slip of a pen", an inquest was told yesterday.

Mrs Lorraine Jones, took her baby, Gemma, back to the Royal Berkshire Hospital at Reading 24 hours after arriving home from her confinement, and a doctor prescribed a 100mg dose of anti-biotics, four times the normal amount, because of her serious condition.

However, a total of 900mg was administered in three doses over 16 hours instead of 300, and the child died the next day.

Dr Heather Mycock told the inquest at Reading: "We were giving the maximum amount of the drug because of the seriousness of the illness and the high rate of mortality and risk of brain damage."

She said her written instructions to the nurses said 300mg of the drug should be administered every eight hours instead of every 24, as they should have done.

"It was a slip of the pen. That was a mistake. When I wrote that note, I had been on duty for 18 hours," Dr Mycock said.

Dr Stephen Corder, a Home Office pathologist, said the child died from bacterial meningitis and an overdose of the antibiotic.

Mrs Jones, a qualified nurse, of Skye Close, Reading, said: "I realized that Gemma was very ill but I was told that after she had been on the anti-biotics for a few days she would probably recover."

The inquest jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

Boy hangs while trying to scare sister

While apparently attempting to "play dead" Brian Thornton, aged 15, accidentally hanged himself at his home in Mary Duncher Close, south London, Southwark Crown Court heard yesterday.

His sister, Sharon Thornton, aged 14, was too distressed to appear in court, described in a statement how her brother, described as a "happy boy" who had ambitions to go to art school used to tie a scarf around his neck and put a blob of red ink at the corner of his mouth.

On August 10, she discovered her brother hanging from his bedroom door suspended on a dog's lead 3in above the ground.

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Hang glider pilots fear jet collision

By Ronald Faux

RAF, who are informed whenever a hang gliding site becomes active.

The danger is almost always from jets on low-flying missions from air stations further afield. They include British and American aircraft, and those from other nationalities. They practice low flying in areas that are legitimately used by hang gliding.

He added: "There are occasions when jets fly blind over hillsides below the 250ft minimum. Hang gliders are not always easy to spot by a pilot travelling at high speed and all the ingredients are there for a serious and tragic accident."

He said that a hang glider pilot could be killed if his aircraft were struck by the violent wake of a close-passing jet.

The association resents the implication in some military statements.

Mr Sean Abbott, editor of Wings, said: "These incidents have taken place in free airspace where hang gliders

Notting Hill clash youth jailed

Political activists had been behind a scheme to turn an area of Notting Hill in west London into a "no go area for police", a judge at the Central Criminal Court alleged yesterday.

Judge Martin, QC, spoke of incidents in All Saints Road, which some members of the local black community referred to as the "front line". He passed a sentence of 18 months youth custody on a youth who helped to make petrol bombs to throw at police.

Anthony Francis, aged 18, unemployed, of St Mark's Road, Notting Hill, was convicted earlier of conspiring to injure police in All Saints Road last April. Four other men were cleared on the judge's direction for lack of evidence of identification.

Judge Martin said that Francis had been drawn into the scheme by others of a "small minority" who lived in the area and wanted to turn All Saints Road into a "no go area for police".

They had encouraged the crowd for their "criminal purposes and political motives".

The judge told Francis: "You were helping to make petrol bombs to throw at police officers and people must realize

Council spending under control, leader says

From Arthur Osman, Leicester

The chief executive of Leicestershire County Council yesterday sharply attacked the Government's proposals to limit rates and reform the rating system. Mr Samuel Jones, said: "It is totally impossible to accept that local government spending is out of control." He said increasingly rigorous controls imposed by Whitehall had prevented that.

The council is controlled by Labour with the help of the Liberal-Social Democratic Party Alliance.

Mr Jones said: "With a few notable and well-publicized exceptions, authorities have headed government guidelines up to now, no matter how unrealistic Whitehall's targets might have been."

It is difficult, therefore, to appreciate the need to place on the statute book a wide-ranging measure to crack a relatively small nut when the ultimate answer to the problem remains available."

Mr Jones said it would be folly not to recognize that the

Council spending under control, leader says

Government's proposals might well win popular support. But while local government might not be popular, its services were. The community had had ample experience of the limitations of consultative councils and other so-called watchdog groups in representing its interests before non-elected organizations.

The community should heed the dangers inherent in a centralized bureaucratic machine.

Mr Jones said: "I fear that ratepayers generally have still not got the message that when central government consistently and consciously squeezes targets and at the same time reduces the percentage grant it is prepared to make from central taxation, down from 66.5 per cent in 1975/76 to 52.8 per cent in 1983/84, then rates will rise."

Until that very simple fact is appreciated, local government will continue to have to bear with and endeavour to counter the odium of many of its ratepayers."

Heart attack killed jailed drugs dealer

The post-mortem examination on Terence Sinclair, the New Zealand drugs dealer who died at Parkhurst Prison on the Isle of Wight on August 12, revealed that he suffered a massive heart attack.

Sinclair, who was serving a life sentence, died a few days after he said he would reveal names and alleged connections between money from drug trafficking and the IRA arms purchasing fund. The examination, the second to be carried out, was conducted at the request of the New Zealand government.

Tests on the first examination, by the Isle of Wight Coroner, are expected to confirm the findings.

Sailing again

The oldest racing yacht in England was relaunched at Portsmouth yesterday after two years of restoration work. The 27-foot "Sorella" was built in 1885 at Rother, Hampshire.

Grocers to plan bread price 'raids'

Street corner grocers are planning to buy cheap loaves from supermarkets and then resell them for the same price in their own shops, as retaliation in a price war.

The grocers claim they are being forced to subsidize the massive discounts which supermarket chains demand from bakeries and which allow them to sell a white sliced loaf for as little as 28p while corner shop customers can pay as much as 42p.

Independent grocers have to pay up to 10p more per loaf wholesale than the big chains.

The protest is being organized by the magazine *Independent Grocer*, which claims that 500 shopkeepers have already responded to the plan.

The magazine's assistant editor, Jenny Campbell said yesterday that "area commanders" were being appointed to plan the action. The date would be kept secret, but would probably be in mid-September.

Shopkeepers would put notices in their windows explaining why they were able to sell bread cheaply on the day.

"The multiple supermarkets have muscle power which allows them to dictate the terms under which they will buy from the bakeries, who can hardly refuse to accept as they would lose volume sales", she said.

The projected protest is receiving some support from the cash-and-carry wholesale sector.

Mr Peter Martin, a cash-and-carry store owner in North Wales, said yesterday his bread supplies had been cut off after he started selling loaves from one bakery group at 28p - below his cost price. They were only resumed when he agreed to put the price back to between 31 and 32p.

"It's unfair", he said. "Similar loaves are being sold by supermarkets in the area at 28 1/2 to 29p. They are telling me I cannot sell at the price I want."

Mr Martin said he would protest to the Office of Fair Trading.

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Independent grocers have to pay up to 10p more per loaf wholesale than the big chains.

The protest is being organized by the magazine *Independent Grocer*, which claims that 500 shopkeepers have already responded to the plan.

The magazine's assistant editor, Jenny Campbell said yesterday that "area commanders" were being appointed to plan the action. The date would be kept secret, but would probably be in mid-September.

Shopkeepers would put notices in their windows explaining why they were able to sell bread cheaply on the day.

"The multiple supermarkets have muscle power which allows them to dictate the terms under which they will buy from the bakeries, who can hardly refuse to accept as they would lose volume sales", she said.

The projected protest is receiving some support from the cash-and-carry wholesale sector.

Mr Peter Martin, a cash-and-carry store owner in North Wales, said yesterday his bread supplies had been cut off after he started selling loaves from one bakery group at 28p - below his cost price. They were only resumed when he agreed to put the price back to between 31 and 32p.

"It's unfair", he said. "Similar loaves are being sold by supermarkets in the area at 28 1/2 to 29p. They are telling me I cannot sell at the price I want."

Mr Martin said he would protest to the Office of Fair Trading.

Greenham evictions possible

By Nicholas Timmins

Women peace campaigners at the Greenham Common cruise missile site in Berkshire expect an eviction attempt on their main camp today after bailiffs under police protection dismantled a smaller camp on local council land last night.

"We know they are coming tomorrow - they told us so - one of the women outside the US Air Force base said. The camp was later moved to Department of Transport land.

The women were taken by surprise as the bailiffs began clearing their Newbury District Council's new policy to remove "squatters". The protesters loaded up as many things as they could save and moved to a "safe house".

One woman said there had been many police at the camp but they had no arrests.

The chief executive of the council, Mr Brian Thetford, said that no personal belongings were being removed.

Newbury District Council is to decide next week whether to try again to evict members of the main Greenham Common peace camp after intensifying its efforts against satellite camps around the cruise missile base.

Mr Brian Thetford, chief executive of the council, acknowledged yesterday that "we will never secure the total removal of it while part of it is on Department of Transport land", but he added: "If the district council is seen to be taking positive action then sooner or later the Department of Transport might feel equally courageous and remove the from their land."

The Department of Transport land is to be used for widening the entrance to the base in order to accommodate the 22-vehicle cruise missile convoys, the first of which is expected to be operational in December. However, Mr Thetford said he did not expect work to start on the road-widening project until November or December at the earliest, and the department says it has no plans at present to repossess the land.

The council's main action recently has been aimed at evictions of camps at other gates.

"There has been a noticeable change in the sort of people coming to the camps in the last two or three weeks. There was a foreign visitor who brought dysentery, some hippy types arrived from South Wales and one had their baby removed because the social services people were concerned, and there have been some skin-heads", Mr Thetford said.

Court time wasted, judge says

A judge yesterday criticized the time wasted in bringing a minor case to the Central Criminal Court in London while prisons were crowded with people waiting trial on more serious charges.

Judge Hazan's comments came after the discovery that a trial listed for the court involved a man who allegedly fraudulently used a small amount of electricity.

The man, whose name was not disclosed, had denied the charge and elected to go for trial. He was due to appear at Acton Crown Court in West London.

He failed to turn up yesterday, and the prosecution applied for a warrant to arrest him. The judge granted it.

Judge Hazan said: "The last thing I want is that remand prisons, which are filled to overflowing, should have remanded in custody someone who is charged with fraudulent extraction of electricity."

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£3m a year hunt for hot rocks

Hot rocks beneath Devon and Cornwall contain the equivalent of the coal resource of the United Kingdom. Researching ways of extracting that geothermal energy has been in progress for eight years, under a research programme costing about £3m a year.

A progress report on the project was given by Dr Anthony Betchelor, of the Camborne School of Mines geothermal energy project.

He said: "The idea was simple. Anywhere on Earth the temperatures increased as greater depths were reached below the surface.

"If a process of producing fractures in deep-lying hot rock could be produced, then the heat could be extracted by forcing water through the cracks.

To be economic, the mined heat must be sold at a high enough rate and priced to recover the drilling investment profitably.

The key was to drill two or more inter-linking access wells for circulating the water from one bore hole to the other.

Leftist talk on parrots

Nine out of ten parrots are left footed in the same way that most people were right handed.

Professor Richard Andrew, of Sussex University, told the association.

In another report reviewing knowledge about the brain and behaviour, Dr Peter Slater, lecturer in animal behaviour at Sussex University, said that all song birds were now known to learn their repertoire by copying others but some were more accurate in their learning than others.

The complexity of vocal communication in birds was exceeded only by that in humans. The male of some species had a vocabulary of hundreds or even thousands of different phrases. The origin of many warblers, which migrated between western Europe and Africa, could be traced by their song patterns.

Slow monitoring blamed for drug disasters

The slowness of the Government's system of monitoring harmful new drugs was to blame for some medical disasters, rather than pharmaceutical industry mistakes, Professor George Teeling-Smith told the British Association yesterday.

He was describing a new approach for the monitoring of the adverse side-effects of drugs to reduce the risks of medical catastrophes.

The project will soon allow 2,500 doctors to use microcomputers in their surgeries to report immediately over the Prestel computer network adverse reactions to patients.

Professor Teeling-Smith, of Surrey University and Director of the Office of Health Economics, an organization supported by the drug industry, reviewed eight large disasters in Britain involving pharmaceutical products between 1939 and 1983.

He said that the only episode anything near the scale of quality of road deaths, for example, when asthma aerosols killed 3,500 people in the United Kingdom in the 1960s.

When set against the figure of 250,000 child lives saved in Britain specifically by the use of modern medicines, the "calamities" fell into perspective, he said. Nevertheless, it was important to exploit the latest technology to minimize the risks.

Government regulations could not provide all the answers. Historically, governments had reacted to calamities rather than anticipated them. Government intervention could not guarantee the safety of the public or the abolition of the manufacturer from responsibility.

With about twenty new pharmaceutical compounds marketed each year it would mean monitoring about two million patients a year if a risk of an adverse effect of one in 10,000 was to be detected. The cost would be astronomical. One calculation was that it would cost £55m for each life saved. Computer-based reporting could handle large numbers of patients to reveal significant dangers as early as possible.

PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCT DISASTERS IN REVIEW

Year	Preparation	Country	Deaths	Permanent Injuries
1939	Sulphanilamide	USA	107	0
1950s	Stallion	France	102	100+
1965	Cutter Polio Vaccine	USA	5	54
1961	Thalidomide	UK	0	450
1960s	Asthma aerosols	UK	3500	0
1970s	Tractolol	UK	20	1200
1970s	Cloquinal	Japan	200	6000
1982	Benzocaprofen	UK	61	0

Reports by Pearce Wright and Clive Cookson

In principle, there was no way that a government could anticipate the next calamity; it was much more likely the scientists in industry might be able to predict possible hazards with their own new compounds, although past experience had shown that even that was not always possible.

The Government's measures to monitor adverse reaction, using the system of "yellow cards" filled in by doctors to record such reactions, was too slow for monitoring purposes.

Clinical trials, even when they involved thousands of patients, could not detect adverse effects which might happen with a probability of one in ten thousand or less, he said.

Nor would clinical trials necessarily point to adverse effects which happened only within a small sub-group of the population: he cited as typical sub-groups those affected by thalidomide and benzocaprofen (the drug known by the brand name Opren which was banned last year).

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One of the greatest achievements of genetic engineering would be to give crop plants such as wheat the ability to fix their own nitrogen from the air. That would liberate farmers from the expensive, time consuming and environmentally damaging business of spreading nitrogen fertilizer.

Professor John Postgate, of Sussex University, told the agriculture section that the first step had been taken in the laboratory.



Kid's stuff: A girl programmes a computerized toy at the popular Micro-Computer Workshop at the British Association conference, which ended yesterday. (Photograph: David Hodge).

Helping plants to tap nitrogen

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Learning from swans in top gear

What is the largest sized bird that might fly? The answer, according to Professor Michael French, Professor of Engineering at Lancaster University, is a four-winged bird, a large pair of wings providing lift and a small pair providing thrust.

Such a design should support a flying creature of up to 100 kilograms. Professor French used the example not to predict a genetically engineered monster but to show young engineers that good ways of design for one purpose were often inadequate for another.

His design avoids the strain of flapping too big a wing which limits the weight of real birds. "Large birds are in too high a gear" he said. "A swan flying is like a cyclist trying to climb a hill in top gear. Watch a swan take off, the similarity is striking."

He suggested nature's design efficiency held lessons for the engineer. Nevertheless, living organisms were not strictly functional. Flowers were strictly practical devices dedicated in every detail to the struggle for survival, with maximum insect-drawing power for minimum cost in living substance.

Aid for developing countries defended

"If I were a natural scientist one of the problems I would like to investigate is why a wasp will climb into a jam jar when several of its fellows are already there, lying dead". Professor Robert Cassen, of the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex University, said.

"Some aspects of human behaviour display the same properties."

He was describing the activities which were intended to be steps forward in cooperation between the industrial and developing worlds, and in particular the meetings of the past two years at the Cancun summit, two annual meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, the Western Economic Summits of Versailles and Williamsburg, and most recently the United Nations conference on trade and development held in Belgrade.

His theme was North and South: economic links and their implications. He launched into a spirited defence of aid against increasingly vocal critics such as Professor Peter Bauer, of the London School of Economics, who say that aid does not work.

"He bases his views, as far as I can judge, on more or less anecdotal evidence of the occasional failed aid project, or on a priori theorizing which has little basis in reality", Professor Cassen said of Professor Bauer, whose views were outlined in an article in *The Times* on April 11.

He said: "Those who still have hopes left, watch their hopes disappear like wasps into the jam jar, for each of these occasions, and many smaller ones on more limited issues, have had the same result: virtually nothing."

Professor Cassen said that the

developing countries were suffering the worst setback to their prospects since the 1950s.

They developed rapidly in the 1950s; less so in the 1970s, but were still making progress. Now, at the start of the 1980s, their growth had fallen drastically.

He added that the record of North-North cooperation was not wholly empty. But the North was negative and had found a number of alibis for its poor performance in offering aid. The alibis most commonly offered were:

- The recovery which had started in the world economy would take care of the developing countries' problems.
- Aid did not work, or was even counter-productive.
- Development should be left to the private sector.
- The industrial countries could not afford to do any more than they were doing already; they had to cut back their own domestic public expenditure.
- The developing countries had caused most of their own problems by the ineffectiveness of their domestic economic management; they had to "get their act together".

Why fire alarms are ignored

Most people have learnt to associate fire alarms with tests, drills or faults in the system. Thus, they often ignore an alarm bell or siren when the building needs to be evacuated because of a real fire, Mr David Tong, of the University of Surrey, told the psychology section.

The Fire Research Unit at Surrey is working on a new type of "informative fire warning system".

Animal test ban 'disastrous'

A total ban on animal experiments would be disastrous for medical research, Dr John Badenoch, a doctor at the Department of Health and Social Security, told the association.

Using animals to test cosmetics was indefensible, he added, but there was an important difference between that and using them to combat life-threatening diseases.

Defending the sea lanes

Japan says Russian military build-up poses threat to Asia

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

Japan must improve its defence and cooperate more closely with the West to counter a Soviet military build-up in Asia, according to a defence White Paper endorsed by the Cabinet yesterday.

A private report on Japanese security, also issued this week in Tokyo, however, warns that it will be difficult to implement Japan's 1983-87 defence build-up plans for lack of adequate spending.

The White Paper, the first to be published since the Government of Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister, was named, emphasizes Japan's growing role and status in the international community, a favourite theme of Mr Nakasone.

"Japan should work in far closer cooperation politically and economically with other Western nations", it says, adding that the "East-West confrontation, based on US and Soviet military power, is becoming global in scope."

Despite efforts by the West to maintain a credible defence, if the trend of the Soviet Union's "unrelenting military build-up" continues, the military balance is likely to favour the Eastern block, the paper warns.

For the first time in a White Paper, the defence Agency mentioned defending Japanese sea lanes. It said that the nation's maritime defence is being built up with the goal of

providing protection for sea lanes of communication within a radius of several hundred miles and, in the case of an armed attack on Japan, protecting sea routes for about 1,000 nautical miles.

The Japanese Government and the United States have begun a study of the sea lanes problem. Private experts, however, say that it will take at least a decade for Japan to build up its forces to the level at which a credible defence could be mounted.

The 1983 edition of *Asian Security*, published by a research institute in Tokyo, points to a number of problems involved in the sea lane study, including differing views held by the United States and Japan, and in achieving other defence targets.

Defence has been given priority in the national budget in recent years, but spending has been too low to achieve the targets set out under current plans, the study says.

Even if Japan were to achieve the targets set out under current plans, the country would still not be able to assume the responsibilities as an ally which the United States now seems to advocate. The current build-up is designed strictly for the defence of Japan and not for any wider purposes.

Asian Security comments that there is no sign for a more far-reaching plan.

Star-gazing sailor who travels hopefully

From a Correspondent Hobart, Tasmania

While the eyes of the yachting world are on the America's Cup extravaganza, a remarkable sea voyage is under way on the other side of the world.

A retired college professor from New Jersey docked in the quiet port of Hobart last week at the halfway point of the first circumnavigation of the globe without navigational instruments.

Professor Marvin Creamer, aged 67, left Cape May, on New Jersey's southern coast, on December 21 on a 16-month voyage in which he expects to "eyeball" his way with no compass to find direction, no sextant to determine latitude and no timepiece.

His route will take him via the three capes: the Cape of Good Hope, Tasmania's South-West Cape, and the notorious Cape Horn. His craft is a 35ft steel sloop, the *Globe Star*.

It is a feat which may well surpass the efforts of modern seafarers such as Sir Francis Chichester and Chay Blythe, for while they were alone - Professor Creamer has two crew - they were able, through substantial sponsorship, to use the best equipment available.

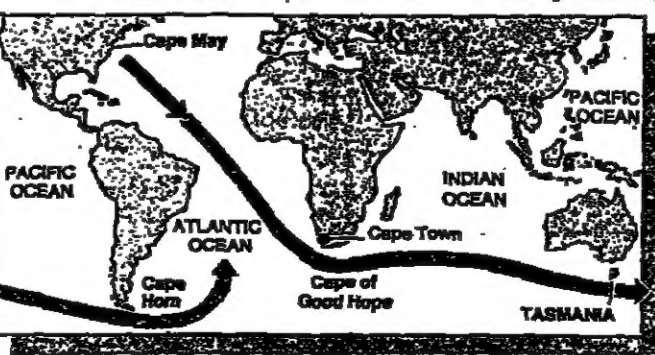
Professor Creamer has no lucrative contracts and the venture is financed mostly by his own life savings.

"I am out to prove that there is information in the sea and the sky which can be used for fairly accurate navigation", he explained. "It's a tip of the hat to the ancients."

"I don't pretend that they circumnavigated the globe - that would be balderdash - but



Time-and-motion: Professor Creamer has only an hourglass to change watch by.



I would like to open scholars' eyes to what may be available", he said.

The *Globe Star* first sighted the Tasmanian coast spot-on at South-West Cape after a 76-day, 6,600-mile haul from Cape Town.

involves numerous observations with the naked eye, such as star sightings, wave patterns, swell direction, the position of the sun and even the colour of the sea, caused by a higher plankton population as they hit a continental shelf.

The key is to establish the correct latitude then to sail parallel to the equator, in this case due east.

Each star in the heavens can be related, through a set of tables known as the declination tables, to a position of latitude when that star passes the meridian, or its highest point in the sky.

By placing his yacht directly beneath the appropriate star at the right time, Professor Creamer has no need for a sextant.

"We expected to be within 450 nautical miles, or about 1° of latitude, but frankly I don't think we could have done better with instruments", he said.

Professor Creamer's method, which has taken him on three transatlantic crossings,

recently ordered to be seized, though their names have not been officially released.

The magistrate's decision was taken before the seizure ordered earlier this week of a controlling 50.2 per cent shareholding in the Rizzoli-Corriere della Sera publishing group in the hands of Signor Angelo Rizzoli and the former managing director, Signor Bruno Tassin Din.

There was no comment in the Vatican where, after months of delay, the report is awaited from an Italian-Vatican commission charged with ascertaining the facts of the IOR's liability towards Banco Ambrosiano.

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Exiled writer stripped of citizenship

MOSCOW (NYT) - Georgi Vladimov, the dissident writer who left under pressure for the West last spring, has been stripped of his citizenship by the Soviet Government for systematically engaging in activities hostile to the state.

The decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet was dated July 1, a month after Mr Vladimov and his wife, Natalya Kuznetsova, and her mother left the Soviet Union for West Germany.

Vatican bankers' assets to be seized

From John Earle Rome

A Milan magistrate investigating the collapse last year of the late Roberto Calvi's Banco Ambrosiano is reported to have ordered the seizure of the assets in Italy of two senior officials of the Vatican bank, the Istituto per le Opere di Religione (IOR). Signor Luigi Memmi, the chief executive, and Signor Pellegrino de Sruobel, the chief accountant, are both Italian citizens.

In a debate in Parliament last October the Treasury Minister of the day, Senator Nino Andreatta, said the IOR owed Banco Ambrosiano \$1,287m (£858m).

No order has been made against Mr Paul Marcinkus, the controversial American archbishop whom the Pope has retained as chairman of the bank, as it is understood to have no assets in Italy.

Last summer the Milan public prosecutor tried to serve formal notices on the three IOR officials that they were under investigation in connection with the Ambrosiano collapse - Italy's biggest banking failure - but the Vatican refused to accept the notices.

Milan court sources said Signor Memmi and Signor de Sruobel were among a group of people whose assets were

Unemployment bends the charts

Sick Germans grit teeth and work on

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Unemployment is good for your health. Or rather, the fear of unemployment forces many people who feel unwell to stay at work instead of registering as sick.

This conclusion has been drawn in West Germany from the sudden and drastic fall in the past 15 months of the percentage of people applying to state health insurance bureaux. The fall coincides with a sharp rise in unemployment, which now stands at over 2,500,000.

For years, it seemed Germans were becoming ever more susceptible to disease. The numbers absent from work on grounds of ill-health rose steadily. Whereas in 1956 there were 545 applications a year for medical certificates from the state health insurance bureaux for every 1,000 people registered, by 1980 the figure had risen to 1,007.

That means that on average each worker went sick at least once a year.

Analysts blamed stress, loss of motivation at work, fear of change, monotony, lack of challenge and frustration. Women were especially blamed for taking more sickness leave than justified by health. They, together with foreign workers and the unskilled, were found to fall most often.

But the past three years have seen a reversal of this trend. Whereas in 1980 6.03 per cent of the population registered sick, in 1981 this had fallen to 5.53 per cent, and by last year it was only 4.48 per cent.

On television, a doctor said many workers were frightened that if they stayed at home there would not be a job for them when they returned. They needed certificates from the state health insurance bureaux to "grit their teeth and bear it," and doctors were being asked to prescribe stronger and more expensive medicines so that people could continue working when they should be in bed.

Green light for donor egg process

Melbourne (Reuters) - Australia's leading test-tube baby team has been given approval by an ethics committee to go ahead with a new process involving the transfer of eggs between women.

The work, by Melbourne's Monash University-Queen Victoria Hospital in-vitro team, was stopped last October while a committee studied legal, social and health aspects.

The technique involves extracting an egg from a donor which is then placed in a test tube, where it is fertilized by the sperm of the husband of the infertile woman. The fertilized egg is then replaced in the woman.

The nine-member committee, set up by the state government of Victoria, said the use of donor eggs should be permitted and laid down guidelines for all aspects of producing test-tube babies.

Routine methods involve an egg, taken from a woman who cannot conceive, being fertilized by her husband's sperm in a test tube before being replaced. Donor sperm is also used in the case of infertile husbands.

The new process, the success of which is yet to be proven by the birth of a healthy baby, will be allowed to proceed if the Government accepts the recommendations.

China offers assistance to Macao

Peking (Reuters) - The governor of China's Guangdong province has promised to support all projects that will help Macao's stability and prosperity, the New China news agency reported yesterday.

The agency said Governor Liang Lingguang concluded a three-day visit to the Portuguese-run enclave on Thursday. Rear-Admiral Vasco da Almeida e Costa, Macao's Governor, told him it would be difficult for Macao to fulfil its development plans without China's support.

Lisbon recognized China's sovereignty over Macao in 1976 and Peking agreed that Portugal should continue to run it. China has left Macao intact and poured money into development projects.

The most recent is a plan to reclaim 1.2m square yards of land in Macao's outer harbour. About 95 per cent of the hundreds of millions of pounds for this scheme will come from the Chinese special economic zone of Zhuhai.

Macao is just east across the Pearl River estuary from Hong Kong, where markets are sensitive to any hints of Chinese intentions when Britain's lease on most of the territory expires in 1997.

Congress study shows that Reagan cuts have hit poor hardest

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The brunt of President Reagan's cuts in welfare and other domestic spending will be borne by families earning less than \$10,000 (\$6,600 in 1981), an income that is typical in the big-city ghettos.

The findings result from the most intensive study carried out by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) on the subject. Some of the statistics are startling. For example, 70 per cent of the main domestic benefit programmes will affect households with a total income of \$20,000 and less.

In the 1985 fiscal year the loss to these families will average \$415, whereas higher-income families will lose only \$175. The losses are across the board of benefit programmes - retirement and disability payments, unemployment pay, housing, child nutrition support, health care, education, social services and job training.

The findings are actually embarrassing the Administration.

Martin Luther King rally

Squabbles threaten civil rights dream

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

Scores of thousands are expected to descend on Washington today for the twentieth anniversary of Martin Luther King's historic "I have a dream" rally. Saturday, in atmosphere and content it will be a different occasion from the one in 1963, when the civil rights movement marched under a single, united banner.

Several groups, particularly those pursuing Jewish interests, will be absent - a reflection of how the civil rights movement has fragmented into an array of sectional and often opposing interests.

For weeks the organizers have been agonizing over the wording of a paper on foreign policy. The fact that there is a foreign policy paper at all reflects the different character of the rally from 1963, when the issues were simple, few and indigenous: jobs and civil rights.

The final wording of the paper has alienated many Jewish groups, who see it as anti-Israel. It has also served to put a formal stamp on the new character of civil rights activism in America, a movement with many faces, most of them looking beyond the traditional issues that brought 250,000 protesters to Washington 20 years ago.

The National Urban League, the biggest black welfare organization in America, will not officially march on Saturday. "We believe the focus on a broad range of issues is likely to limit the impact (of the march)," it said. "We cannot justify the strain on our limited



Martin Luther King: Followers divided

Thais score successes in war on drug rings

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Thailand, intensifying its war against narcotics, is seizing twice as much heroin this year as it did in 1982, according to Major-General Chavalit Yodmanee, Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board.

He said 600 kilograms (1,323 lb) of heroin was confiscated in the first seven months of this year. This equaled the amount seized during the whole of last year. About 520 people were being arrested every week in 500 separate drug-related cases.

The seizure of 600 kilograms of heroin is significant because it represents nearly 20 per cent of Thailand's opium crop which amounted to 35 tons at the last harvest. Ten tons of opium are required to make one ton of heroin.

The bulk of the Golden Triangle opium is grown in Burma with the third side of the triangle, Laos, providing about 70 tons a year.

Thailand's anti-narcotics campaign shifted into top gear about 20 months ago. Its success may be explained by a remark by Mr Maurice Tanner, the senior American narcotics officer in Thailand: "I am happy," he said, "when I pick up my paper and see they have arrested a police officer or Army man with narcotics. That hardly happens until recently. Now they are going after them."

Early last year Thai forces drove Khun Sa and his private army back across the border into Burma in an operation which cost 17 Thai lives.

When Khun Sa's men began to reestablish themselves recently on Thai territory the Thai launched three separate assaults against the new bases, and in the past three weeks have seized two large heroin refineries, extensive living quarters, storehouses and supplies.

Last month they arrested a Singaporean alleged to be a key figure in a drugs ring stretching from South-east Asia to Europe and Australia.

Americans return to the gas guzzler

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Out of the shadows of shame the big American car is emerging again into the sunlight of popular approval.

After being put behind the wheels of smaller cars by the 1970s oil crisis and the skill of foreign car makers, Americans are returning in their thousands to their true love: the big, fat, plushy, squishy gas-guzzler, the traditional and ever present prop on the American stage.

Suddenly there are smiles again in Detroit, the automobile capital. Manufacturers cannot produce limousines fast enough to meet demand. Car sales are the best for four years, and sales of large cars in July were up by a third compared with the same month last year. Ford, Chrysler and General Motors are expected to make \$3.3 billion net profit this year, roughly what they lost in 1980-1982.

With optimism running high, it cannot be long before Motown businessmen revive the grace once intended before a businessman's lunch a few years ago: "Almighty God, we thank thee for the wheel, for the person who made it into a vehicle, for those who produce it, and bless us who use it. Amen."

The immediate cause of the resurgence of the big car is the fall in the cost of petrol, to about 92p a gallon, and the fact that better engine design enables even the largest roadliners to consume less than they used to. More Americans feel that they can return to large cars without feeling that the conservationists are frowning on them.

Americans have always liked owning big cars, symbols of the full and abundant life. From the dawn of the motor age the broad-shouldered car with a billiard-table bonnet and a howling-ally boot seemed and indisputable part of the American scene and dream, a keystone of culture, social intercourse and the American rites of courtship.

The oil crisis made Americans reconsider their relationship with cars, one of the momentous readjustments of their history. On economists' orders, a people raised on big steaks and big cars found themselves having to buy smaller cars. Suddenly it seemed selfish and even unpatriotic to have a big car. And when people found that smaller American cars were not available or not good enough, foreign cars were there to meet the need.

Mr Ralph Nader, the American consumer activist, had already accused car manufacturers of putting profits and style before safety and quality, and safety legislation and foreign competition has led to a reform of ideas in the motor industry. For a long time American cars have not had a good reputation in respect of quality, and Detroit today is putting an emphasis on better design, engineering and finish.

There is still a question-



Motown's delight: The big, plush roadliner is fashionable again.

mark over some American cars, however. The Government is using General Motors to make them recall 1.1m cars with suspected brake defects. The Government alleges that the defects led to 15 deaths and that GM tried to cover up the faults.

The renewal of the American love affair with the big car is also, ironically, getting the manufacturers into trouble with the Government.

Under fuel economy regulations, petrol consumption must average 26 miles per gallon. Makers are liable to a penalty of \$3.30 for each one-tenth of a mile per gallon by which they fail to meet the standard, multiplied by the number of cars they sell in a year. On this basis General Motors could face a fine of about \$266m this year, and Ford about \$106m.

There is still a question-

There is still a question-

Reagan trip to Manila opposed by Kennedy

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Senator Edward Kennedy has urged President Reagan to cancel his visit to the Philippines until the perpetrators of the murder of the Filipino opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, have been brought to justice.

The Massachusetts Democrat in a letter to the President, also said the United States should delay action on all aid and support to the Philippines until the government of President Marcos has "conducted a full, satisfactory and impartial investigation of the Aquino assassination and reported its findings to the United States Government."

He will urge other members of Congress to support his position when it reconvenes. President Reagan is due to visit Manila as part of an Asian tour in November. The White House has repeatedly emphasized that the Aquino assassination at Manila airport last Sunday has not changed President Reagan's plans.

The Reagan Administration has condemned the assassination and called for a thorough and objective investigation.

MANILA: Thousands of students rallied at two universities in protest against the Aquino assassination while a commission created to investigate the killing held its first working meeting (AP reports).

Major General Prospero Olivas, chief of the Manila Metropolitan Police, told a news conference that investigators had encountered only "blind leads" in trying to identify the alleged assassin who was killed by security officers.

He added that among many officers confined to quarters during the inquiry was Brigadier General Luther Custodio, head of airport security.

'I saw warders beat three prisoners to death'

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Warders in charge of a working party of black convicts beat three of them to death as they lay slumped over wheelbarrows crying for mercy in blazing heat, a court has been told.

Eight warders, four whites and four blacks, have pleaded not guilty to three charges of murder and 24 of assault with intent to do bodily harm at their trial at Witbank, in the eastern Transvaal.

Mr Andries Mtembu, serving five years for theft, said the temperature was about 35°C (95°F) when a party of 47 prisoners was escorted to a dam site at the Barberton prison.

"The warders told us we were going to work until the sweat and salt poured out," Mr Mtembu said.

He said three warders beat Robert Khumalo, one of the three who later died, until he collapsed beside his wheelbarrow.

Another of the men who died, Mhlabazi Xaba, was lying on the ground and moaning, "I'm dying."

Mr Mtembu said Xaba staggered to his feet and reeled away like a drunkard.

"This warder ran after Xaba and hit him on the back of the head. Xaba fell. The warder then put his foot on him and pulled him up by his left arm and hit him repeatedly."

Mr Mtembu told the court: "What I have said in my evidence is that I have seen three men being beaten to death."



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Police leave cancelled as Sind prepares for third week of violence

From Michael Hamlyn
Karachi

All police leave has been cancelled in the troubled province of Sind as the Pakistani authorities prepare for a possible third week of violent demonstrations against the martial law regime of President Zia-ul-Haq.

Yesterday, however, was the quietest day since the campaign of civil disobedience began on August 14, Independence Day. A number of individuals "court-martialed" in towns around the country; they appeared in the street at a prearranged time, and started shouting slogans against the regime. The police led them away to overcrowded jails. But no major incidents were reported.

Outside the New Town mosque in Karachi, a far from the town of Jinnah, the founder of the nation - an eager crowd gathered after midday prayers yesterday, rather like a gathering after matins on a Christian Sunday.

As the worshippers poured out of the mosque with their lacy skullcaps in place, Mr Muhammad Sharif, a leader of the left-wing Sind People's Movement, stood on a car and waved a paper placard. He looked over his shoulder nervously and began to shout slogans like "Death to Zia". "Zia is a dog" and other remarks in breach of martial law.

Nothing happened. He looked over his shoulder again down the road to where a police detachment in steel helmets were swinging their lathis, and

Gandhi backs call for democracy

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, yesterday endorsed her Government's statement in support of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy in Pakistan (Our Delhi Correspondent writes).

She told a meeting of the Congress parliamentary party that the people of Pakistan had been struggling for democracy, of which they had only a brief spell.

"We are a democracy and shall ever be so. We have to oppose injustice everywhere. We want that there should be democracy everywhere", she said.

When such things happened in India's neighbourhood, we are moved because these have repercussions in our country. We just cannot keep our eyes closed."

Mr Muhammad Yusuf, an additional city magistrate, solved the problem for them. With a loud hailer he informed them that prayers were over, and if they did not disperse they would all be arrested. Five minutes later a police inspector took the loud hailer and said their time was up; he was coming to get them.

He and a platoon of police strung out across the road walked towards them. The crowd suddenly remembered it was lunchtime, and melted away.

National Liberation Front, one of the eight banned parties forming the movement for the restoration of democracy that is organizing the civil disobedience campaign.

He too set off towards the police with his arms up in a Nixonian V-sign. As the crowd again began to pelt the police he waved them back. "No, no. This is a peaceful demonstration", he insisted. The policeman shook his hand and led him to the pick-up truck that drove him away with his hand still fixed in a V-sign.

At this stage earlier in the week the real business of the day would have begun with youngsters hurling missiles at the police and the police responding with tear gas.

There was a tense moment or two as the crowd, which had now grown to more than a thousand, hopped from one foot to another and wondered what to do next.

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Desert encounter: An unflappable ostrich and a donkey carrying water pass a French armoured car in Massakori, Chad, without showing any concern.

Chad envoy plays down his recall

From Diana Geddes
Paris

Mr Ahmad Allam-Mi, Chad's Chargé d'Affaires in Paris, tried yesterday to dispel suspicion that his recall to Ndjamena was linked with Chad's disapproval of President Mitterrand's comments on the possible creation of a federation in Chad or his lack of support for a counter-offensive against the Libyan-backed rebels.

Mr Allam-Mi said his recall, which came immediately after the publication of M Mitterrand's interview on Chad in *Le Monde*, was for "regular consultations" with officials in Ndjamena, and had nothing to do with the French President's statement. He is due to leave Paris on Monday.

Earlier, he had expressed satisfaction that M Mitterrand had confirmed France's firm support for the Chad Government against the "Libyan aggressor". There was no dispute between France and President Hissene Habré; the misunderstandings had been cleared up, he insisted.

But sources in Ndjamena indicated that Chad government officials are concerned about President Mitterrand's strong hints that the French would not back a counter-offensive against the key town of Faya-Lageau, and about his proposal for a federation.

● Ndjamena - M Charles Harnu, the French Defence Minister, began an inspection tour yesterday of French paratroops facing Chad's Libyan-backed northern desert. (AP reports).

Arab prisoners moved

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Israelis find escape warren

In an effort to close off access to a warren of escape tunnels under the Arab prison camp at Ansar, South Lebanon, the Israeli Army has moved all 5,000 inmates, most of them Palestinians. They are being housed in a temporary compound while a permanent camp is built on higher ground nearby.

The Army's engineering corps are working around the clock to complete the new camp which has already started to take detainees. All are being held without trial by the Israelis, who have repeatedly refused to grant them prisoner-of-war status.

Confirming the evacuation of the original barbed-wire compound, built soon after the invasion in June last year, Israeli military sources told *The Times* that the new camp was needed to improve security and provide better winter conditions.

On Thursday night, two Arab escapees who were part of a mass breakout earlier this month were shot dead when they opened fire on an Israeli roadblock in Lebanon's Chouf mountains and three others were injured. Three more Arabs in the two cars in the incident were also killed.

Although journalists are barred from visiting the new Ansar

camp, I understand that the look of permanence comes from paved roads and huts for communal facilities.

The costly construction has added the impression that Israel is preparing for a long stay in south Lebanon after the imminent pull-back to the Awali River.

The sources said a number of tunnels had been discovered under the evacuated compound, in which hundreds of tents were burnt down or torn to pieces in a riot last month. They also spoke of the severe difficulties facing Israeli guards as military grows among the PLO prisoners.

The indication of these problems came this week from a reservist who had just finished his term of duty at the camp. He wrote: "It is no longer clear who is whose prisoner."

The reservist, who claimed that the Israelis were losing control, added: "At night, you can clearly hear the sounds of underground tunnelling. All of Ansar is sitting on an underground tunnel system. Sometimes prisoners disappear and are found a few hours later, obviously having spent time in one of the underground caverns."

The military sources ac-

knowledge the difficulties but deny that control has been lost at Ansar. They argue that the guards would not have been able to supervise the transfer to the temporary camp if they had not been in control of the prisoners.

Mr Michael Ben-Meir, another reservist recently released from guard duty, has described how the prisoners dismantled handwork kits and welded tent pegs on to their portable cooking stoves to make weapons. He told of Israeli guards being attacked with rocks and "cursed, spat and sworn at" by the inmates.

The original compound at Ansar, a hillside village near the town of Nabatiya, was guarded from watchtowers equipped with heavy machine guns, surrounded by barbed wire, earthworks and a perimeter that carried mine warnings. No details of the extensive new security measures in the permanent camp have been disclosed.

Although repeated efforts have been made behind the scenes to negotiate a prisoner exchange, none has yet come close to success, and the Israelis claim to be refusing direct contact with the PLO. Israel is also holding some 300 Syrian soldiers and officers captured during the Lebanon war.

150 held in Uruguay after protest

Montevideo (Reuters) - A call by Uruguay's political parties for people to remain indoors and darken their homes to show opposition to military rule turned into a noisy day of protest, with many arrests reported.

Witnesses said that at least 150 demonstrators were detained as they dispersed after a spontaneous rally in Montevideo on Thursday night at the end of the first day of protest called by all parties against the 10-year-old military government.

More than 2,000 demonstrators had earlier marched through the city after a day in which residents banged pots and pans to express their opposition.

Demonstrators made victory signs when they rallied on the square facing Government House and motorists sounded their horns in streets that had been nearly deserted for most of the day.

Leads showered around the capital in recent days by political parties did not call for a march or pot-banging; the parties instead asked people to remain indoors for two hours before switching house lights off for 15 minutes.

The protest was organized by a last group comprising members of all parties, including outlawed left-wing groups, set up after the Government banned all public political activity and publication of political news on August 2.

The Government, however, reiterated its pledge to hold elections in November 1984 and hand over power to a civilian administration in March 1985.

The August 2 ban followed the breakdown of talks between the Government and politicians when the three legal parties - the Blanco, the Colorado and the small Civic Union - stormed out in protest against proposed constitutional reforms which, they said, would give the military sweeping powers of political repression.

Chile opposition insists that Pinochet resign

Santiago (Reuters) - Political parties trying to oust President Pinochet of Chile have told Señor Sergio Jarpa, the Interior Minister, that the President must resign.

But after their meeting, the demand did not appear in a list of eight measures which the Democratic Alliance said the Government should adopt as soon as possible.

The meeting this week at the residence of the Archbishop of Santiago, was held only hours after the Alliance called for a new day of protest on September 8 to back its call for a return to democracy in 18 months.

Señor Jarpa said only that the talks had been useful and interesting and that further meetings would be held.

But the representatives of the five parties in the Alliance reiterated their view that only big political changes, including the President's resignation, could prevent the dialogue with the Government from becoming stultified.

Demands made by the Alliance included an end to the state of emergency, the legalization of political parties, the passing of electoral law, the return of all exiles, and freedom of expression and assembly.

Nicaragua rebels step up campaign

Managua (NYT) - Insurgents fighting the Nicaraguan Government have stepped up their activity in the past week, mounting at least eight attacks over a wide area of northern Nicaragua and inflicting scores of casualties, according to government officials.

Nicaraguan diplomats say they believe that as many as 2,000 insurgents have entered Nicaragua from bases in Honduras this month. The Defence Ministry issued a statement on Thursday asserting that the country was facing a new escalation of aggression.

The Defence Minister, Commander Humberto Ortega, last weekend said that the military situation had become difficult. The insurgents are said to have received millions of dollars in covert aid from the United States.

This week's fighting, which followed several months of reduced activity by the insurgents, has extended throughout northern Nicaragua, according to Sandinista Government reports.

Earlier insurgent operations were concentrated in the

western part of the country.

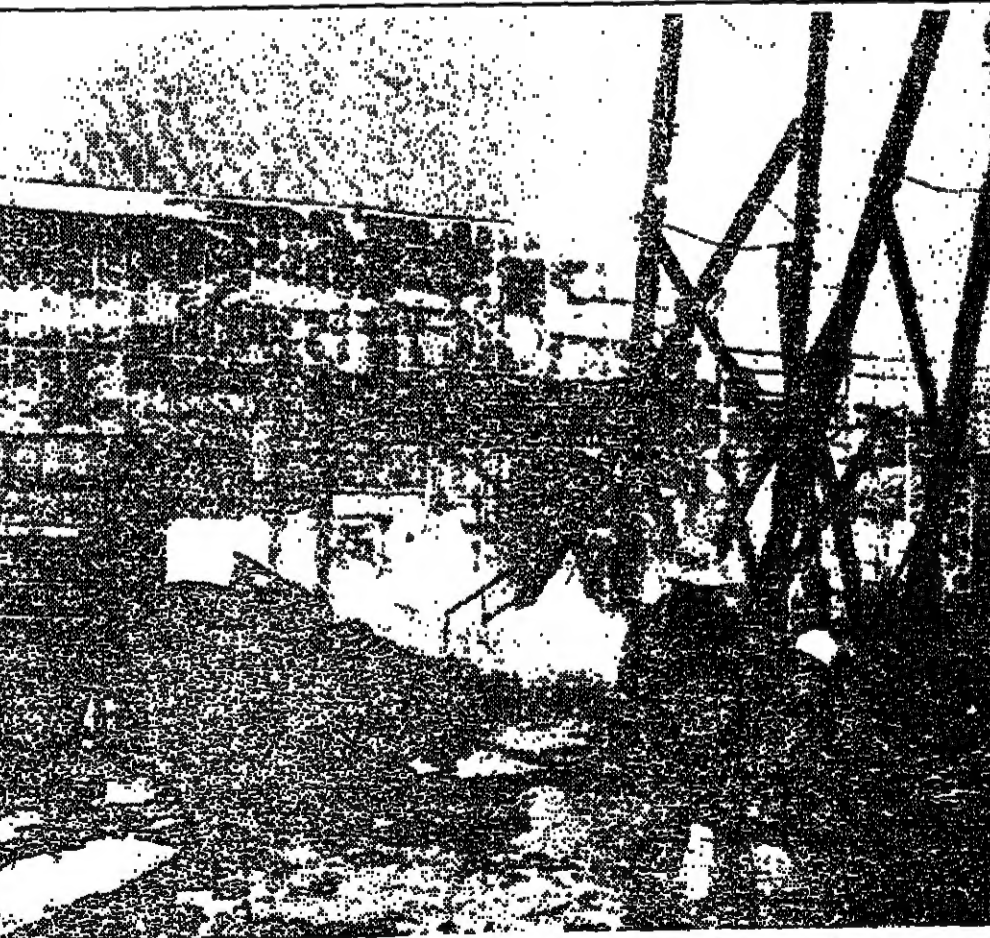
The appearance of hundreds of insurgents in the eastern province of Zelaya led Commander Ortega to speculate publicly that their goal was to seize Puerto Cabezas, an important port on the Caribbean coast.

He said the insurgents were seeking a place to establish a provisional government that would be recognized by the United States and its regional allies.

The insurgent campaign comes as the US is preparing to send as many as 6,000 troops to Honduras for manoeuvres expected to last up to six months.

● Rebels repelled: Militiamen in the northern Nicaraguan town of Ciudad Sandino beat off 200 rebels in a three-hour battle, killing 21, residents said yesterday (Reuters reports).

● Battleship arrives: The 57,000-ton battleship New Jersey and six other US warships arrived off Nicaragua's Pacific coast to begin military exercises. A five-ship battle group led by the 62,000-ton aircraft carrier Coral Sea is off the Caribbean coast.



Smokescreen: The aftermath of a huge blaze which destroyed sets at the Paramount Studios in Hollywood, including the sound stage being used for *Star Trek III*.

Bizarre start to Pérez de Cuellar's Angola mission

From Richard Dowden,
Luanda

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the secretary general of the United Nations, arrived here yesterday to a reception designed to impress upon him the strength and firmness of Angola's position on Namibia, then encountered a bizarre attempt to make him stay longer than he intended.

Given a public holiday, tens of thousands of Government supporters filled the airport and lined the streets to welcome him. Banners denouncing South Africa and the United States were suddenly draped across the airport road. As he stepped of his aircraft, a little girl ran forward as if to embrace him. Señor de Cuellar's face fell

in embarrassment as he realized she was tying an MPLA scarf around his neck.

Taken to a podium opposite a sculpture depicting an army boot as big as a house stamping on a South African soldier, he was subjected to an impromptu rally: 40 minutes of speeches in support of the MPLA and praising the 1976 revolution in which, with Soviet and Cuban military aid, it defeated its Pretoria-backed rivals.

President Eduardo dos Santos made a short speech repeating Angola's conditions for the withdrawal of Cubans from its territory: there should be an unconditional withdrawal of South African forces from Angola. United Nations Resolution 435 on Namibian independence should be rapidly

implemented and South Africa should stop acting in support of Unita.

"When these conditions are fulfilled then we will be ready to discuss with Cuba the progressive withdrawal of Cuban forces", said the President.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar had planned to leave last night but according to the Angolan programme he was to leave at midday today, having met representatives from the South West African People's Organisation (Swapo) and the African National Congress of South Africa. He is still planning to meet Mr Sam Nujoma, the President of Swapo.

The Angolans had also announced that Señor Pérez de Cuellar would arrive at 10.30 yesterday morning but the

drummers were still beating out a welcome an hour later.

Then at about 12.15 the Soviet Ambassador arrived from Moscow and was ushered into line to meet the secretary general. The rest of the diplomatic corps had been inexplicably dismissed earlier. The ambassador said later that he did not know that Señor Pérez de Cuellar's time of arrival was to be 1pm and he had not expected to be in the reception committee.

The UN Secretary-General is claiming some success from his visit to South Africa and Namibia.

● JOHANNESBURG: President de Cuellar believes that the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola should be handled separately from the indepen-

dence of Namibia (Ray Kennedy reports).

"I hate the idea of linking the two things," he said.

The Secretary General repeated that his talks in Cape Town and Windhoek were confined to his Security Council mandate to negotiate the speedy implementation of Resolution 435.

The South African Government views the withdrawal of Cuban forces as an absolute prerequisite. Señor de Cuellar said if he tackled the Cuban issue "it will be in an entirely different context, not in the context of Resolution 435."

Police with batons and pickaxe handles broke up a demonstration by Swapo outside his hotel in Windhoek on Thursday night.

Gemayel pleads for unity when Israel pulls out

From Kate Dougan, Beirut

For those who remember the fiery speeches of Mr Amin Gemayel, the Lebanese President, made at the UN last year when he was a young Deputy, his televised speech on Thursday night was sobering. Wearing a dark suit, he faced the nation and appealed for help in his efforts to deploy the Lebanese Army in the troubled Chouf mountains.

No doubt his mood reflected the uncertainty the country is facing as the time for Israeli redeployment nears. As one left-wing newspaper, *As Saifir*, put it, Mr Gemayel personified the calm before the storm.

In his speech, the President said: "The hour of challenge is approaching", and called on his countrymen to support the Government's plan to deploy the Army to the Chouf mountains in the event of an Israeli pull-out.

"The Lebanese Army will enter the Chouf with the people and not against the people because it is the only alternative to the armies of division."

Mr Gemayel's speech contained no great revelations or truths, except perhaps his first admission that the country was closer to partition than the Government had previously cared to admit.

Not once did he mention the US or Lebanon's West European supporters, or emphasize - as he has done so many times

before - that the salvation of Lebanon would come through their support.

"You are the state and the state is you," Mr Gemayel said. "The new Lebanon will belong to all Lebanese without discrimination, hegemony or domination. There is no discrimination between one citizen or another..."

While setting the mind of the populace at ease by emphasizing that the Army would remain neutral if it entered the Chouf, where his father's Phalangist militia are fighting the Druze, Mr Gemayel gave no indication that he was closer to an agreement to prevent a violent confrontation. The Druze have said that one will be inevitable if the Army goes in without some form of reconciliation.

If Mr Gemayel captured the heart or attention of the man in the street, it is doubtful whether he scored a similar success with his unpredictable opponents, although the general reaction yesterday was somewhat reassuring.

One person who was not appeased was the Druze leader, Mr Walid Jumblatt, head of the Left-wing Progressive Socialist Party. He said the President's assurances were not enough and called on the Druze of the Chouf to rise up against the Army if it deployed in their villages.

Taking the wind from Malta's sail

From Wigg Madrid
Madrid

While Malta continued yesterday to withhold approval of the final document which would permit foreign ministers to conclude the European security review conference in Madrid next month, the 34 other delegations were trying to curb Valletta's opportunities for a propaganda exercise.

Spain's invitation to the foreign ministers to mark by their presence in Madrid from September 7-9 the spirit of East-West détente has significantly reduced the importance of Malta's obstructionist tactics. But the problem remains of deciding what conference sessions are to be held between now and then.

An attempt by neutral countries on Thursday night to gain Maltese approval of a compromise formula on Mediterranean security met with a rebuff.

Mr Evarist Saliba, the chief Maltese delegate, said afterwards that his Government wanted the other 34 nations to extend moral and material support for "any initiative" which Malta and other participating Mediterranean states may launch in the post-Madrid meeting period "concerning security in that region. This was rejected by Western delegations as a demand for a blank cheque."

● BONN: Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany emphasized yesterday that his country would go ahead with the deployment of intermediate-range nuclear missiles if American-Soviet arms reduction talks in Geneva fail (AP reports).

But he said recent letters to him from President Reagan and President Andropov showed there was still hope the two sides could reach a missile limitation agreement this year.

"I shall do everything I can to influence the talks in Geneva... so that they will achieve a result this year," Dr Kohl said. "And I am not pessimistic," he added.

The Chancellor insisted that West Germany was sticking "to both parts of the Nato two-track decision and we are equally serious about both parts. For me the first part - negotiating part - is not just any part". Dr Kohl told a new conference at the end of his summer vacation.

Satellite weapon 'tested by Russia'

Frankfurt (AFP) - The Soviet Union tested an anti-satellite weapon above Munich in June, 1982, according to the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. "Secret Western information" showed the test, while not wholly conclusive technically, proved that the Russians were capable of destroying satellites above Soviet territory.

MP cleared in Montreal

Ottawa - A Montreal judge has ruled that Mr Bryce Mackasey, aged 62, a Liberal MP and former minister, does not have to stand trial on three charges of influence peddling (John Best writes).

He was charged with illegally accepting a \$400,000 (£120,000) loan in return for trying to obtain government contracts for a Montreal machine tool firm. Two businessmen, Mr Robert Harrison and Mr Jean Bruyere, still face charges of attempting to bribe Mr Mackasey.

Track record

Washington (Reuters) - On a journey from Florida to New York the "Silver Meteor" train ran down and killed a woman on the line, collided with a lorry abandoned on the track, struck another lorry that had stalled on a crossing, and was derailed. Nineteen of the 413 passengers were treated in hospital after the last incident.

Vote marathon

Lagos (AFP) - Nigerians vote today for the fourth successive Saturday this time to elect a federal House of Representatives, the 450-member lower chamber of the National Assembly. There is no voting in the western state of Oyo and Ondo.

Rain toll

Bayonne (AP) - Four people drowned as six others were reported missing after torrential rain hit the French Basque country. Three people died when their camper was swept away by high water near St Jean-de-Luz.

Back to work



President José Figueredo of Costa Rica, aged 65, who returned to work yesterday after recovering from a heart operation in the United States.

Aides accused

Yaoundé (AP) - Two close associates of former President Ahmadou Ahidjo of Cameroon, Major Ibrahim Oumharou and Captain Ahmadou Salatu, have been accused of "attacking the security of the state" and will be brought to trial.

False alarm

Bagotville, Quebec (AP) - A Wardair DC10 charter flight from Calgary to London, carrying 297 passengers made an emergency landing at a Canadian military base here, after a faulty fire indicator light went on.

Blast questions

Berlin (Reuters) - West Berlin police have questioned eight Armenians living in the city in connexion with the explosion at the French consulate on Thursday. They were not detained but police examined a large amount of printed material.

Lima protest

Lima (Reuters) - About 5,000 workers, carrying empty pots and pans, marched on Congress to protest against hunger, unemployment and the Government's economic austerity measures, but police prevented the demonstrators from approaching the building.

Uganda deaths

Kampala (AP) - Three members of the ruling Uganda People's Congress youth wing were killed when gunmen attacked Bukasa, near the Ugandan capital. A policeman was shot dead while setting up a roadblock near Kyanja.

Seychelles link

Victoria (AP) - The Chinese Minister for Foreign Trade, Mrs Chen Muhua, held talks with President Albert René in the Seychelles capital on economic and technical cooperation.

Super spiders

Moscow (Reuters) - A plague of highly-poisonous Black Widow spiders has hit the southern Soviet region of Astrakhan. The spiders, which have killed a number of camels and other animals, emit a poison 15 times stronger than that of a cobra.

THE ARTS

Radio
Slaving
away

I suppose many of us entertain the reassuring notion that, in the wake of William Wilberforce, and whatever else may be wrong with the world, we have at least been able to leave behind us the condition in which one man actually owns another as his property. Not quite so. In *The Unbroken Line* (Radio 4, August 23, producer, Jock Gallagher) Adam Raphael was able to give instances not only of practices which amount to slavery (debt-bondage in India, the enticement of jobless American workers into labour camps where they are held by force and without proper pay), but of the present day ownership of one human being by another.

In Mauritania in West Africa, slavery was last outlawed three years ago - after several previous and unsuccessful enactments - and still it has not disappeared. Indeed it cannot disappear for it seems that the Mauritanian economy would collapse without it. Free the slaves, compel their owners to pay them and these owners would quite simply be unable to do so. A few might be retained as paid servants, the rest - amounting to many thousands - would end up on the streets, deprived of any means of support. In such a case, at such a time, effective abolition would apparently be worse than the offence, for the slave's lot is not always wretched: there are good masters as well as bad.

Raphael's other examples, though arguably not out and out slavery, were to my mind more squalid and disheartening because they all involved an element of callous deceit. The Haitian authorities knowingly engage large numbers of their own black people to cut cane for the mestizos of the neighbouring Dominican Republic (who don't stoop to such work) under conditions which the victims only later discover to be servitude.

Indian labourers acquire unavoidable debts to their landlords and are then trapped for life, never earning enough cash to discharge the debt, which may only be the equivalent of £10. We heard a landlord declare that he paid his workers not in kind but cash (as he is supposed to) and assert that they had only told the BBC they were under debt-bondage so as to underpin their claim for government handout. No doubt it happens, but that slavery is a proportion of the landlords lying their heads off. Not quite the programme Wilberforce might have hoped for to mark the 150th anniversary of abolition.

That same last Tuesday was used to mark another anniversary, the eruption of Krakatoa, in 1883. Anyway, Sean Maffett's *Once in a Blue Moon* (Radio 4, producer, John Knight) was none the worse for arriving in advance. It was a most vivid reconstruction, its pictorial qualities enhanced by the inclusion of archive recordings of eye-witness survivors.

Two of the week's plays sounded quite exceptionally at home in the medium of radio. Tony Flaherty's *Before I Am Old* (Radio 4, August 23rd) told a familiar story but did it with unusual sympathy; English Neil on a visit to Connemara encounters Mary, youngest daughter of a local working family, a relationship beautifully portrayed in all its early innocence. Mary ends up pregnant; Neil does the gentlemanly thing and offers to marry her, but the community, represented by the local priest, closes its solid Irish Catholic ranks on the foreigner and, to his amazement, sends him packing. The play was constructed as a flashback in the frame of Neil's later sentimental visit to the woman he had once loved, a visit calculated to destroy all sentimental feeling, the actors (Anon Lesser and Marcella O'Riordan) expertly conveying how each had changed. Fine evocative direction by Marilyn Ireland in Belfast.

On Radio 3 *The Barometer* (August 25), translated by James Naughton from Alexander Kliment's Czech original, included touching, mellow performances by Pauline Lillis and Michael Spice under the direction of Christopher Venning.

David Wade



Richard Gaddes: Determined to buy American

John Higgins introduces the Opera Theatre of St Louis, the first American opera company to come to the Festival, and its creator, Richard Gaddes

The choice of the first American opera company to visit Edinburgh has fallen on the Opera Theatre of St Louis. Ten years ago there was virtually no grand opera in St Louis. The town which is bisected by the Missouri, relied for its summer music on "the Muni", the Municipal Opera in the city park which supplied, and still supplies, the usual summer stock season of Porter and Kern, Rodgers and Hammerstein, with a big star in each show. In the winter there is, of course, the St Louis Symphony.

The man who introduced opera to St Louis, and vice versa, in this century is Richard Gaddes, an Englishman who learned his trade at Glyndebourne and then Santa Fe before setting up his own company in the Mid-West. During its eight seasons to date the Opera Theatre has attracted both acclaim and critical attention - the last four have all been reported on this page. The reason takes little seeking from the outset Gaddes has been determined to introduce the unfamiliar both in terms of repertoire and singers. There

must have been a temptation to go for the tried and tested in a city with little or no operatic tradition, but it was resisted. Each year the St Louisians were given a familiar work, a *Traviata* or a *Rigoletto*, but at the same time they are encouraged to sample what cannot be tasted elsewhere.

As with the operas, so with the singers. Gaddes decided to steer away from the hardened campaigners of the touring circuit and instead took a chance on singers just embarking on their careers. Here the background of Glyndebourne and Santa Fe clearly had an influence, because both houses have for long had a justified reputation for seeking out and nurturing young talent. Gaddes, however, added another element in vocal terms he was determined to buy American, although his producers and conductors could come from elsewhere.

In the season just ended in St Louis there was one Canadian mezzo, but the company was American. And United States citizens make up the entire casts at Edinburgh. The choice of

repertoire is also thoroughly representative of what might be heard in St Louis: a concert of Sunday Evening Pops to show off half-a-dozen members of the company (tomorrow), followed by two performances each of Stephen Paulus's *The Postman Always Rings Twice* (September 6-9) and Delius's *Fennimore and Gerda* (September 8-10). The first is a European premiere, while Delius's opera, apart from a St Pancras production some years ago, is scarcely writ bold on the musical map.

"What's to be found in the Operatic Attic?" was a *New York Times* headline for a report on the last St Louis season. And Gaddes reckons that he spends quite a few happy hours up there under the eaves. He also thinks that the Edinburgh repertoire virtually selected itself. There was originally talk of Rossini's *La cenerentola*, which Jonathan Miller wanted to direct with Frederica von Stade in the title role. But then Jonathan decided to leave the theatre altogether and that put paid to that. In one way I was not sorry. The

arrangement was for us to sing it in St Louis in English, since that is our tradition, and then release it in Italian for Edinburgh, where they prefer opera to be performed in the original language. But that would not have been a facsimile of a St Louis production, which is what I want to present to Edinburgh. So we turned to Paulus and Delius. When John Drummond approached me I was riding high on the success of *Fennimore*. It was a new style of production and it also reflected, I suppose, my natural tendency to shy away from standard pieces. That was our English connexion. So we then needed the American connexion. The first act of *Postman* had just arrived on my desk and I thought it had a very reasonable chance of being a success.

"Maybe it was an irresponsible risk. We'll see. I'm fully aware that there has been little exposure over here to American opera. And those who go along expecting to hear something in the style of Britten, Walton or Berkeley will be surprised to come across a soft-shoe shuffle in Act II. But let's hope that

audiences will be familiar with the James M. Cain novel, or its film versions, and that they will enjoy it as a piece of drama.

The St Louis visit came about almost by accident. The first choice of Festival Director, was Santa Fe, but the negotiations fell through. He bumped into Richard Gaddes one day at the Metropolitan Museum in New York and the deal was virtually arranged on the spot. St Louis have not previously played outside their home state, although they were on the verge of going to Monte Carlo a couple of years ago. Gaddes believes that the time is now right for a limited amount of exposure abroad.

"Artistically, I think we have developed and refined a company style and the orchestra [drawn from the St Louis Symphony] is now well used to playing opera. From a practical point of view it stimulates our buying power among young singers because they know that they will come to us with a reasonable chance of being reviewed overseas."

Concerts

Summer Music
Elizabeth Hall

Togetherness is a virtue much prized in summer gatherings of musicians, and too often it is assumed that the feeling - comradeship, warmth, and let's have a bash - will make up for the absence of the musical fact.

Thursday's remarkable contribution to what is proving to be an exceptionally successful Summer Music series had, however, every sort of togetherness. A string sextet whose members can scarcely all be familiar with each other gave wonderfully sophisticated accounts of Schoenberg's *Verklarte Nacht* and the Brahms G major Sextet, and even avoided the diet of treacle for lunch, treacle for supper which made the programme at first appear unalluring.

There was a clear identity of purpose between the concert hall and the Young Uck Kim and his partner on many occasions, cellist Yo Yo Ma: their playing was intense, though I found Kim rather insistent and unrelaxed. Greater poise was shown

BBCSO/Elder
Albert Hall/Radio 3/4

The absence of Tippett's symphonies from the concert hall has been heavy; the burden was lightened on Thursday when the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Mark Elder brought No 2 to the Proms.

Whether unfamiliarity was breeding contempt or merely uncertainty as to whether the music was likeable stuff or not, the number of disruptive, ill-tempered exits and entrances from the auditorium rivalled those in the pit at the legendary first performance.

But for those who stayed, the aural preparation of Beethoven was rewarded by a performance which took its salute to the earlier master, sensed the vibrant undercurrents of Vivaldi and Stravinsky, and through it all spoke the name of its

Nineteen-year-old Brian McCarron went through the windscreen of his car after a head-on collision with a heavy lorry last November. He broke both legs, his nose, a wrist, lacerated his face, virtually destroyed one eye and severely damaged the other. The only lucky thing for him that day was that the accident occurred within the area covered by the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, where life-saving techniques, particularly in emergencies, have been extensively developed by more than a decade of the emergency.

Only 1 per cent of patients admitted to Ulster hospitals, even at the height of the troubles, were victims of sectarian violence, but the Royal Victoria sits in the hot spot and all patients have benefited from the advancement of its doctors' skills.

Channel 4's *Trauma* last night, produced and tightly

on the first viola line by the superlative Nobuko Imai, who concentrated all Brahms's effusive warmth into her melodies and gave the strange open-string oscillation of the Sextet's first movement an eerie quality.

Csaba Erdelyi matched her, gesture for gesture, with complete precision, as did Christopher Warren-Green (who played second violin to Kim with restraint and careful blending).

Though there were moments when the group's sense of internal tuning faltered - in the lovely tinge of E flat in the Brahms G major opening, and more oddly, in the simplest variation of the Adagio - the general matching of phrasing and feeling was very natural, the balance unforced. There was heavy peasant fun in the Trio of the Brahms Scherzo, but the finest moments were both visionary: the rippling arpeggios in the last section of the Schoenberg, with cello pizzicati perfectly swept; and the glorious coda of the Brahms Adagio, rising up over a seemingly endless cello pedal note.

Nicholas Kenyon

Great and Small

Both Strauss's play has had a rough ride on its way to London, and now that it has arrived it would gladden my heart to welcome a work that has succeeded on other European stages as well as saluting the mad courage of Glenda Jackson and her management in launching a large-scale experimental German piece in the West End. On the strength of Keith Hack's production, though, I do not feel I have yet seen the play.

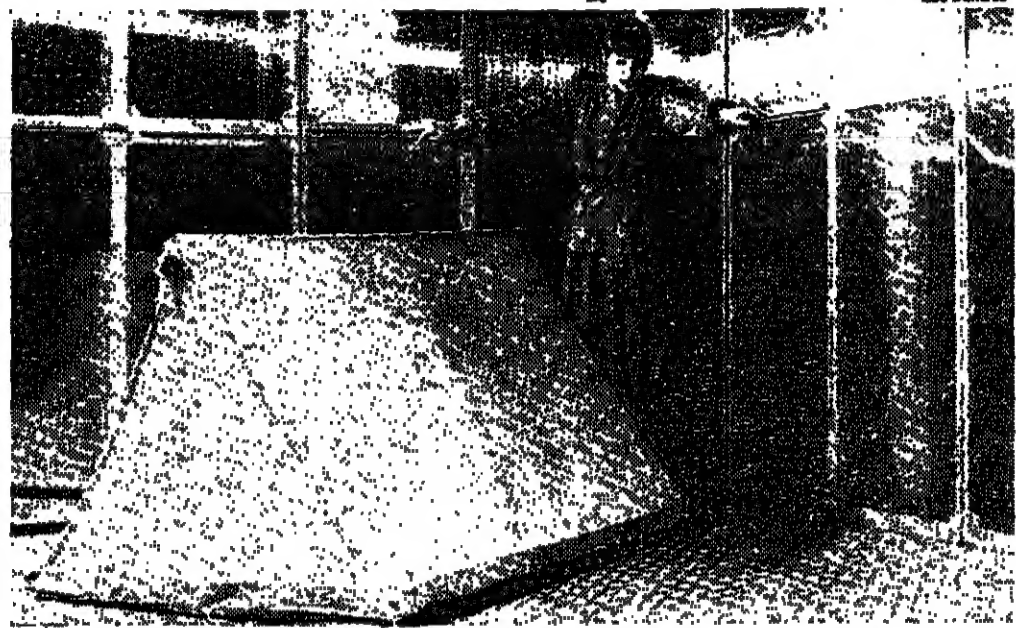
Great and Small first appeared in 1978 in a five-hour production at the Berlin Schauspielhaus, where it was described as an alienated woman's journey through the desolate landscape of West German consumer society. Its method - which does survive on the Vaudeville stage - is that of the expressionist *Stadionendrama*, that discards articulated plot in favour of a series of dislocated tableaux held together only by

Hilary Finch

directed by Alan Hailes, was the first of a series of four filmed over four months in the hospital with an elaborate system of communication between doctors and crew and the decision as to whether the film should be shown or not resting with the patient. It will not be a series for the squeamish, who might be heartened to hear of the availability of such dedication and skill, should the worst happen, but would prefer not to watch.

The specialized efforts of the Royal Victoria on behalf of Brian McCarron were shown in gory detail - the damaged eyes, the hammering of steel nails into bones, incisions here and there, the whole paraphernalia of emergency medicine - accompanied by matter-of-fact commentaries by doctors involved.

For most of his first day he underwent surgery, then there

Theatre
Worlds apartGreat and Small
Vaudeville

Glenda Jackson and tent person the hero's search for self-realization. It is not a style that has ever found much favour over here; but one can imagine it working powerfully in the case of Strauss's *Lotte*, a separated wife vainly striving for human contact in a world of closed doors, and finally taking up residence in a hospital waiting room where, like the audience, she will sit forever awaiting treatment.

In the Vaudeville version we first see Lotte sitting alone at a cafe table during a package tour of Morocco where she has not managed to speak to a single soul. The isolation intensifies when he comes home. Her husband throws her out again; she finds brief refuge in a tenement basement, and then sets off in pursuit of old friends and relations only to meet renewed defeat.

Marooned on a pile of rubbish, she has an angry encounter with the Almighty, and proceeds on her journey to the waiting room convinced

that she is one of the 26 righteous persons of Jewish myth.

Some impression of the surrounding world does filter through: a place where no mail arrives except catalogues, outdoor furniture has to be chained to the concrete garden and marriages are kept going only by ever-growing wardrobes.

But whatever David Essinger's efforts to relate the play to England, the result gives you scant invitation to identify this society as your own.

Glenda Jackson goes through most of the evening wearing a brave, brilliant smile in calculated contrast to her circumstances. She opts throughout for a low-status relationship towards those who reject her.

Her one great outburst, played with the self-confronting cries of a hurt child, is fine emotional acting, but it does not rescue her from appearing simply blind and uncomprehending rather than enabling her to view the events through her eyes.

Irving Wardle

Television/Weekend choice

It is safe to assume that anyone out for lunch tomorrow, who whips himself up into a froth of indecision over whether to settle for lobster or go for the *foie gras*, will not have watched *Breadline Britain* (tomorrow, noon, ITV), in which blind, partially deaf, diabetic Mavis Gold, with only 14p in her purse until the delayed Giro cheque arrives and only half a dozen eggs left and a half-loaf, disconcertingly puts such gastronomic dilemmas into perspective. In tomorrow's film, the air is thick with dust from the crumbling dreams of radical reformers like Beveridge who had visions of an era when want would be banished. The sharp clicks we can almost hear are caused by the social security benefit traps as they snap shut on the desperately needy.

Fifteen unbroken hours of rock 'n' roll on BBC 2, starting today at 3.15, is an act of partisan programme-planning

Dennis Hackett

LSO/Abbado
Usher Hall

So urging an undercurrent is the Vienna 1900 theme of this Edinburgh Festival that almost every concert has one rushing backstage mentally to the main festival exhibition. There we were in the Usher Hall on Thursday, listening to a performance of Schoenberg's *Erwartung* such as can rarely have been equalled, knowing that only half a mile away in the National Museum of Antiquities rest for the moment a selection of his paintings on the subject and a page of his manuscript.

All the books tell us that Schoenberg composed his fevered operatic monologues in nine days, from which might one suppose the autograph is one long Beethovenian scrawl. Not a bit of it. The notation resembles rather that neat, precise, little calligraphy of a Webern, and whether Claudio Abbado has seen it or not, he certainly knows that the plunging speed, the variety and the intensity of Schoenberg's expressions depend on the realization being as near perfect as human musicians can make it. The London Symphony Orchestra came pretty close.

I wondered if the score can ever have sounded so surely beautiful. The obvious opportunities for beauty are there, of course, in the odd strands of yearning string music that come like dislocated memories of earlier, more innocent music,

perhaps even of Strauss Waltzes. Mr Abbado and his players duly made these sing. But their rarer accomplishment was to defeat ugliness of sound wherever it became possible, not by muting effects but rather by placing them like stars against a great, distant vault. The menace was still there, in the rattle of low harps, the march of a bass cabinet, the shriek of trumpets, but added to it was an extraordinary appeal. *Erwartung* turns out to be a score brimming over with icy sensuousness, not just a nightmare.

As such it provides all the decor the work needs. No visible scenery could possibly keep up with the pace of performance like that and Schoenberg's own smudgy canvases are surely not stage designs but only attempts to set down instants from performances going on inside his head.

Afterwards came something almost as uncommon: a performance of the "Eroica" Symphony that sounded heroic but never vainly so. The LSO were in resplendent form, the wind led by delightful solos from flute and oboe, the strings quick in response to changes of colour and texture, the three horns nicely cast as rough diamonds with the mud of the chase on their boots. And Mr Abbado directed them superbly in a manner that looked forward to the splendours of Wagner and Bruckner but kept the comparative naivety of Vienna 1900.

Paul Griffiths

Dance

like sugar-icing gnomes in plus-fours; the women have lace skirts and put on tiaras for the finale.

Giving this work on the same bill as Balanchine's *Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No 2* invites unkind comparisons, but what a joy it is to see the latter ballet again, and so exuberantly danced by a cast who find no need to be pompous about its ceremonious choreography.

Merrill Ashley's bravura technique makes the ballerina role ring bright and clear, and she has developed a joyousness to enhance her always brilliant dancing. Adam Luders brings a good bearing and secure dancing to the male lead, but should look at the ballerina, not the audience, when landing on one knee.

John Percival

New York City
Ballet
Covent Garden

Sorry to have to start with a grouch, but as Thursday night was the second consecutive performance when the Covent Garden interval bells were on the blink, they ought to have found some alternative way of getting people back into their seats. How could anyone give proper attention to so involved a work as *Concerto for Two Solo Pianos* while interrupted by noisily shuffling late-comers stumbling through the dark and crossing one's view of the stage?

I hope it was not only that problem which made me think that it was almost the end of the first movement, before Peter Martins's choreography began to get to grips with Stravinsky's music. Once Heather Watts was on stage, Martins's understanding of her individual quality produced some fascinating movement - quirky, angular solos; duets with oblique balances and turning falls.

The evening's other London premiere was *Souvenir de Florence*, in which John Taras decks out a minor Tchaikovsky suite with conventional encounters and yearnings, all soaked in a heavy fake-Russian sauce. In a less distinguished repertoire it would possibly seem more acceptable, but only after burning Rouben Ter-Arutunian's costumes. The men look

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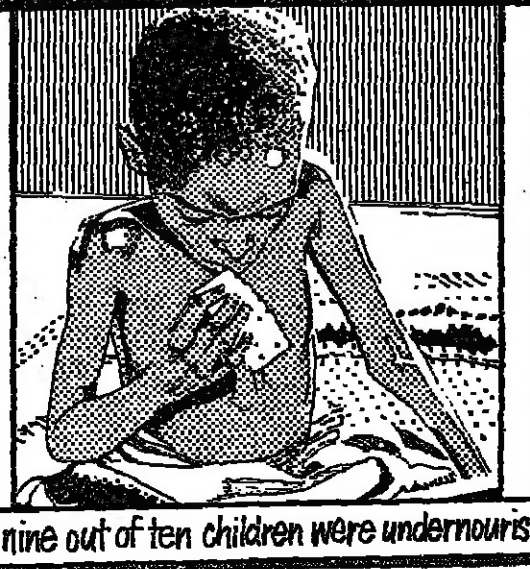
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Roy Strong

My trunk route grand tour

A cedar of Lebanon guards our house. I look out on it as I write. It is supposed to have been planted in 1815 and acts as a mnemonic for the date of the battle of Waterloo but, in another sense, it is the first tree that I ever really got to know well. It has been a good friend and a noble teacher because I have been frantically looking at and planting trees ever since.

It is an even better inspiration to be exposed to the enthusiasms of a genuine "tree man". The late Sir Richard Cotterell, a peppery soul and guardian of a mighty Repton landscape, was such. His eye and mind were all trees. Once, to mark the coronation, he walked me round his creation, Queen's Wood, just outside Hereford. We paused at each tree or group of trees, considered its form and shape, when it was planted, and its rate of growth. There was almost a solemnity about our stately progress.

With another "tree man", Lawrence Banks, one swoops from one trunk to the next at Hergist Croft, exclaiming over its texture and colour with a fervour of aesthetic appreciation more generally applied to an antique textile. It is always exciting to be in touch with a way of looking at things which most of us bypass. For most ordinary mortals, trees are just things that happen to be there. I would quite like one day to go on a great tour of Britain tour in the same way as we visit our cathedrals or country houses. I for one have already begun to compile a personal anthology of favourites.

I would have to begin with the ancient oaks of England, and none for me can surpass those in the royal chase at Hatfield. I was once taken to see them by the late Dowager Marchioness of Salisbury in a hair-raising cross-field expedition to trace the eighteenth-century road that still remains there. A monument to times past when roads actually went round trees. There were, vast gnarled specimens that must have witnessed many a royal hunting party, and beneath one of which the young Elizabeth I was sitting on the November day that the news came from London of her sister's death.

That, sadly, is now only a stump, so I would have to include another royal tree, the Boscombe oak, or rather its descendant. That still flourishes, although I have only seen it across the fields from the mount in the garden. The original perished as a result of the onslaught of souvenir hunters avid for twigs and whole branches. I would also have to include the vast evergreen or holm oak at Westbury-upon-Severn, whose mighty branches are supported from below by props. And the elms of Worcestershire would also have figured but, alas, are no more part of the elegant pattern of Elgar's landscape.

The only fruit trees that stick in my mind are those trained into extraordinary shapes. There is a spectacular group at Powis Castle, first glimpsed from above. They have been tied and trained into orderly domes as exact as though they had been composed with the sweep of a compass arc. At Barnsley House, Gloucestershire, the new potager has, as centre points of the vegetable beds, apple trees trained as crowns. And there is the marvellous avenue of venerable, espaliered apple trees that leads away from Cranbury Manor towards great gates and the beyond.

And that brings me to avenues.

The majestic sweep of sweet chestnuts down the hill away from Croft Castle would come high on my list. So would the pleached lime avenue at Sissinghurst, Kent. I would add to this the Lombardy poplar avenue planted by the late Duke of Wellington in the house he lived in near Stratfield Saye in Hampshire, arranged in a steep false perspective up towards the skyline and thus seeming to stretch into infinity.

Does the stilt hedge of hornbeam at Hidcote, Gloucestershire, count? I hope so, as I have a personal penchant for the architectural treatment of trees which must be antithetical to the pure "tree man".

John Fowler copied this effect for his Gothic lodge in his minute masterpiece of a garden which would also have to be included. He once taught me how to get mistletoe to grow in the boughs of fruit trees, but I have never been able to achieve it.

But perhaps my favourite single tree is one just outside Stow-on-the-Wold, by which I have driven times without number. It is a variety of *acer palmatum*, a small tree with a crown of leaves which unfurl in the spring, bluish pink streaked with the palest green. Perfect in form, it arises at the side of an entrance to a great house directly opposite the lodge. Every spring one waits for the magic moment when this astonishing being begins to blaze once more. I always feel grateful to whoever planted it for sited this rare and exotic tree where everyone who drives along the road from Tewkesbury to Burford over the Cotswolds can savour its glory.

Sir Roy Strong is Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Peter Nichols

Making tracks to childhood

As everyone knows, this is not the Age of the Train. Not the age of the nightmail crossing the border but the container lorry careering across the safety barrier. The age of the train was yesterday, childhood, another country, and those of us who enjoy railways resent British Rail's lie because the attempt at now-ness robs trains of glamour.

For who plays lorry driver? What boy in his right mind arranges motorway pile-ups on his bedroom floor? Could anyone travel hopefully on a day trip to Victoria coach station? Or make a bit of "Pardon me, boy, is that the inter-city diesel"? And who can forget the excursions of childhood?

I remember as though it were last week the waking before dawn for fear everyone else would oversleep, the wolfed bacon sandwich and mug of tea, the last chance to do number ones in case the train had no corridor. All five of us squeezed into the tiny car for a short drive to the local station of Craven Arms, where we crossed the footbridge to the down platform, already packed with other parents and their children, burdened with packed lunch and swimming togs.

While adults swapped weather forecasts, most children looked up the track towards Shrewsbury for the 6.50, all four carriages of it. We wanted to sit near the driver but an officious guard directed us further back.

Now the sun was up, promising yet another glorious day of the kind we seldom see any more. Weeks of tropical warmth had not forewarned the crew, and radiators belched hot air till a father went to complain.

The view as we gathered speed enhanced even familiar villages like Broome, Bucknell and Hopton Heath but after Knuckle Halt the 13-arched viaduct took us across the border into a foreign country short on vowels and strong on I's. Llangunllo, Llanbister Road and Troedriweddwen plunged us into Abroad, the halts hardly long enough to read the names.

The next three towns had all become something Wells when the line was built in 1865, bringing these remote drovers' towns within reach of metropolitan hypochondriacs. Llandrindod, Llangamarch and Llanwrtyd joined the roster of sparsely shod at one is said still to be full of the abandoned crutches of satisfied customers - a touch of PR to equal BR - and trains on this line literally took the waters, bottles of barium to the grateful to connect at Swansea so that London health-breaks could complete their cures at home. All we saw from the carriage was a great hotel.

After Sugar Loaf Summit, the way was all descent, through a deep tunnel and over another high viaduct with amazing views of a wooded valley. The beauty was almost monotonous - sheep fording streams, anglers waving from river banks, bikers on a suspension bridge - but relief came when we reached the gruesome collieries and works

around Llanelli, where an engine at the other end reversed us to Swansea.

Our family was led by its Welsh mother to buy cockles and edible seaweed in the covered market and by noon we were on Rotherlode Beach, paddling in icy water but dried in seconds by the blaze of sun. Another world, where parents climbed to sit on a hotel terrace with pints and Pernods, watching the tide go out.

Did "Pernods" give the game away? There is a very good reason why I remember all this as clearly as though it were last week. It was last week. Last Saturday's £5.25 return excursion on The Heart of Wales line - 200 miles from our new home near Craven Arms to my wife's birthplace by the sea.

I could not have described the hotel bar in pre-war terms, not with all those chic beach people doing the St Tropez in briefs and bikinis and gold chains at necks and ankles. After drinks we watched a good men's doubles team yards from the sands, visited an aunt, drank lager in the Dylan Tavern on Mumbles front, rode back in an open-top bus along Swansea Bay's promenade and caught our return train at seven.

In one respect, steam was never as good as diesel. Now you can see what the driver sees, watch him changing keys and tokens with signalmen, blowing horns at farm crossings and wish him "goodnight" as he changes trains at Llanwrtyd with the crew of the Shrewsbury Show Special, so that he can be home in Swansea by bedtime. The last driver told me he had been on the line all his working life, starting as a fireman in the days when they had fires.

There is no logical reason why this line should continue. Butcher Bechingham must have looked at the cost - now said to be £5,000 per passenger-journey - and longed to close it; Mauder Marsh tried to but it passed through several marginal Labour seats and just survived. If the bridges start to go or the tunnels give, the axe will fall.

At Craven Arms, lit only by moon and stars, the platform filled again as we all got off. "Looks like the whole population," said the guard. His words rang a bell and some days later I recalled the original. Li David Tinker, killed on HMS Glamorgan just over a year ago, wrote of the Falklands: "It is, after all, only a rock with a village population on it; more people live in Craven Arms." And no one effectively challenges the billions that will be spent on the islands.

Wave a flag, beat a drum and politics becomes the art of the impossible. I am recruiting a band of terrorists to undermine the viaducts and harry the dieselists. Then perhaps they will send a task force and what they have won they will have to maintain. It's worth fighting for, The Heart of Wales.

The author's most recent play, *Poppo*, was produced by the RSC last year.

THE TIMES DIARY

Russian roulette

The chances of the Bolshoi Ballet coming to London next year are as evenly balanced as a ballerina in the Rose adagio. Tony Banks, MP for Newham North West and chairman of the GLC arts committee, says it will be decided within a month, strictly on questions of costs, though the thing that most makes him want the Russians to come is the displeasure it would cause the Government. "They have written out their objections because of the invasion of Afghanistan," he says. "I was not very impressed. If they say the GLC should not take an interest in Northern Ireland, I do not see how they can expect us to be interested in what happens in Afghanistan." If the Bolshoi do come to the South Bank it will not be the usual balletomanes who get to see them. Banks says: "We are not in the market to provide more subsidised seats for people who only complain about their rates". His plan is that, if the Bolshoi come, tickets should be allocated to tenants' associations, housing associations, pensioners, welfare claimants, and the like.

Last Tuesday on a train due to leave Waterloo at 19.16 the guard announced: "We are sorry for the late departure of this train. We have two drivers fighting to take this train out and hope the issue will soon be resolved".

Beastly

Impressed, no doubt, by our efforts to find a symbol for the European Currency Unit, now to be the subject of discussion at an international conference on the future of the ECU in Luxembourg next month, the EEC has started looking for a symbol of its own. An animal mascot has been suggested for a publicity campaign aimed at schools. The industrious squirrel, hiding its harvest for future use, has been rejected because of its association with agricultural surpluses. The eager beaver is unsuitable because it is the mascot of the Free Quebecois. The most popular suggestion from Commission staff is a sloth.

BARRY FANTONI



'He probably needs more betels and Marylebone station'

Bangering

I rather think the Meat Promotion Executive, who sponsor the British Sausage Bureau, has entered my PHSausage joke competition for which the Bureau's Sausage Time clocks are prizes. The Executive's latest press release claims: "British sausages do not need 'pricking'". After the shattering explosions under my grill yesterday morning, though, I reckon it is still a sensible precaution, at least until Mrs PHS resumes culinary duties.

End of run

The village which was BBC-TV's *Clochemerle* in the serialization of Gabriel Chevalier's classic yarn of the construction of a French village *paysan* is turning fiction into fact. Vaux-en-Beaujolais, which denied it was Chevalier's model for *Clochemerle* until the BBC chose to film there, celebrates the opening of an up-to-date concrete *paysanerie* tomorrow afternoon with a gala fête and ball. Though modest in size the new facility makes an important concession to modernity. It caters for the needs of both sexes.

No change

The Black Watch were the victors of Waterloo yesterday for the third year running. The battle was won on the playing fields of Werl in Germany, where they are stationed, with their main battle honours days before Waterloo at Quatre Bras, acting the part of the Irish, Welsh and even the English. The enemy was provided by Belgian grenadiers while local Germans, led by their fire brigade, played the Prussians. They were under strict orders not to turn up an hour late, as they did in 1815.

During the run of the 7/84 theatre company's popular show *Men Should Weep* at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, a local jogger tethered a stuffed reindeer to the front of the building with a notice attached: "I am the first in tonight's queue". The theatre kept the beast on to advertise their next show, starring Warren Mitchell. Now, after a two-month closure, the theatre administrators find the animal has been whisked off to the Edinburgh Festival among 7/84's props, and is currently appearing in their presentation, *Women in Power*. "We want the reindeer back", a spokesman for Stratford East protests. "We resisted him, and we were planning to put him in our pantomime". PHS



Top right: Count Alexei Nikolaevich Tolstoy. Top left: Tolstoy with Konstantin Simonov and H.G. Wells in Leningrad, 1934. Above left: Visiting the Soviet air force in 1943. Above right: Relaxing in the country with his third wife, Ludmilla, 1941

The Tolstoy in Stalin's pocket

In order to ensure the presence of the celebrated writer Count Alexei Tolstoy among her house guests that summer, the well-known society hostess Valentina Khodasevich took the precaution of sending him an invitation months before, in the winter. The count was, after all, a great catch. He was the country's most famous novelist and playwright and a nobleman of high rank, and also the richest man below her rank in all Russia. In country houses, and city mansions he was always in demand: charming, affable, talented and generous, his presence ensured the success of any house-party, reception or dinner.

"My husband and I," Mme Khodasevich recalled, "invited Alexei Nikolaevich and his wife to come to us in the summer at the village of Dubovo on lake Seliger, where we had a delightful, fair-sized house. For the use of guests we kept a couple of yachts and several canoes. The house was situated on the edge of the lake. . . . Generally we crossed in our canoes to the opposite shore, where there was a marvellously sandy beach."

Readers may justifiably imagine that we are back in the palmy days of Tsar Alexander II, when peace reigned from Baltic to Pacific, the

spirit of revolution had been stilled, and the Russian nobility led a life of unimaginable luxury and pleasure. Those unfamiliar with Russian history may be surprised to learn that Tolstoy's Elysian holiday was not spent in the summer of 1890 . . . but that of 1940. Twenty-three years earlier revolution had swept away Russia's aristocracy in torrents of blood, and in its place had proudly risen the world's first socialist state.

However, the career of Count Alexei Nikolaevich Tolstoy may serve to illustrate some surprising realities of Soviet society.

by Nikolai Tolstoy

confident of the required attitude, and again attacked the playwright for having "distorted history". He took the hint properly in the third version. A totally new Peter trotted the boards; a calmly beneficent ruler, devoted only to the reconstruction of his country, quite testical and virtually chaste, and hated only by virtuous foreigners. In the first version the pathetic Tsarevich Alexei is opposed to his overriding father on personal grounds, but in the 1938 version (the year of the Munich crisis) it turns out he was planning to betray the country to the Germans. All this of course involved conscious distortions of history, which Tolstoy appears to have been happy to perpetrate. What mattered was not to relate his Peter to the Peter of history, but to his twentieth-century successor.

Tolstoy's reward was commensurate with his efforts. He received the Stalin Prize of 100,000 roubles and was enabled to enjoy a lavish lifestyle. In Stalin's eyes to be the apotheosis of Peter the Great conferred enormous benefits. It exonerated the fearful suffering inflicted by a Russian autocrat on his people, on the grounds that this was a necessary sacrifice on Russia's path to greatness. It required a man of gigantic courage, prepared if necessary to sink his arms to the elbows in blood, to drag this stagnant country forwards.

intervened to suggest a more tactful version. Most startling of all was the elevation to generous patriot of the sadistic chief of the *oprichniki*, Maluyta Skuratov. Clearly Stalin believed that Beria too deserved some credit.

Finally, in his novel *Bread*, Alexei abandoned allegory and gave his public Stalin in person as hero. The theme was the siege of Tsaritsyn (afterwards Stalingrad) in 1918. Stalin's unbelievable heroism under fire and cool organization of victory is described in ecstatic terms, and contrasted the unspeakable Trotsky's blackhearted treachery. The story (published in 1938) was so false and fawning as since to have embarrassed even Tolstoy's most ardent Soviet admirers; though at the time nervous reviewers naturally hailed it as his greatest achievement.

Tolstoy's assistance to Stalin during this dangerous period was considerable. After the death of Gorky in 1936 he was considered Soviet Russia's greatest writer. His better works gained international respect as inspired literature. Sustained by his solid prestige Tolstoy's historical novels underlined the inevitability of the communist triumph and portrayed in vivid colours Stalin's two greatest predecessors, who like him had been reluctantly obliged to inflict colossal suffering on the people in order to achieve Russia's greatness. As



Three Tolstoyes: Leo, Alexei and Nikolai. In his book, from which this article is extracted, Nikolai Tolstoy writes: "Few families have produced a higher literary talent than that of Leo Tolstoy, but few have descended to one as degraded as that of Alexei Nikolaevich." The book is *The Tolstoy Twenty-four Generations of Russian History 1353-1983*, to be published by Hamish Hamilton on Monday price £12.50.

There was another significant aspect, one which in all probability accounts for Tolstoy's immunity from harm during the lopping of thousands of loyal heads in the late 1930s. Tolstoy had been at pains in his novel to remind his readers that the Tsar's ablest servant had been another Count Tolstoy. Peter Andreievich, Peter Tolstoy had initially joined Tsar Peter's enemies, but after staying in Western Europe returned to render his master brilliant services. But it was not so much this parallel which struck Stalin, but that with Count Leo Tolstoy. The greatest ornament of nineteenth-century Russian culture had been one Tolstoy, and now Stalin's Russia possessed another. The leader's immortality was assured.

The elevation of Stalin-Peter was far from being Alexei Tolstoy's only service to his master. It had not escaped his notice that a far more apt parallel was to be found in the prison of Tsar Ivan the Terrible, who had organized an effective predecessor of the NKVD, the *oprichniki*, with which he waged war on the Russian people. In 1942 Alexei began work on two plays depicting Ivan the Terrible's heroic struggle to create a modern Russian state. Maybe he killed vast numbers of people, but this was necessary in order to overcome the fractious dissent of the boyars and the ignorance of the people. As for the *oprichniki*, well, they were a self-sacrificing group of warriors devoted to protecting the country. Tolstoy's original version had them defending the autocracy, but Stalin himself

propaganda for internal and external consumption it was superb. It touched precisely the chord to which impressionable foreigners responded so well.

Many of the themes and revisions of Tolstoy's writings were directly suggested to him by Stalin himself, and the author was at times ready to oblige by some new convolution of ideas. His services did not pass unrewarded.

He and his wife settled down in "baronial style in a rambling, many-roomed mansion stocked with rich antiques", by the Catherine Park at Detokoe Selo, outside Petrograd (soon afterwards Leningrad). It was surrounded by a cool garden, overlooked by a terrace, where the author loved to stroll on an evening and prune his roses.

Alexei Tolstoy's other house at Barvika was the greatest draw for Moscow high society. High party officials, actors, writers, and ballerinas vied with each other to obtain the entrée. He was after all, an internationally famous writer, bore one of the most famous names in Russian history, and was the only nobleman publicly surviving in the New Year, and on January 10, 1945 his family and friends gathered round his bedside for his sixty-second birthday. Six weeks later he was dead.

It is hard not to believe that the degrading personal rôle he undertook in Soviet society exerted a damaging effect on his creative capacity. His personal character was without question beneath contempt, reflecting the pitiful morality of many contemporary European intellectuals. There was no lie, betrayal or indignity which he would not hasten to commit in order to fill his pockets, and in Stalin he found a worthy master.



P.O. Box 7, 200, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 9EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

A GRAVEL VOICE FROM ETTRICK

Mr David Steel's missive from Tweddale, Ettrick and Ram-bouillet has put his party in a tizzy. The tone suggests that the post-influenza asthma of which his GP has spoken has not completely cleared up. The content makes it certain that the party's conference next month will be an acrimonious affair.

It was heading that way in any case. Sections of the party are still so sure that the joint manifesto to which the Liberal leadership subscribed with their partners in the SDP was over-compromised. In particular it kept options open about the stationing of cruise missiles in Britain instead of coming out against it as the Liberal assembly had done, and it omitted mention of blood sports. So there is a move to strip the party leader of his final say on the manifesto.

Mr Steel has quite rightly made this a matter fundamental to his remaining leader. What matters is not that the last word on the manifesto should be personal to the leader but that it should remain with the parliamentary leadership and not be given to some extra-parliamentary body. With the awful warning before them of what happened to the Labour Party when it fought an election on a manifesto which most of its shadow ministers would have liked to disavow and had to explain away, and with a well-organized move to block the proposed amendment, it is unlikely that the critics of Mr Steel's "autocratic" leadership will win that point against him.

Mr Steel's letter ranges more widely than the details of the party constitution. It enters into personalities. He demands to

know why Mr Tony Greaves has not been up before a drum-head court martial for disgraceful conduct in the face of the enemy. Mr Greaves is chairman of the Association of Liberal Councilors which put out a distancing document of its own about policy in the course of the election campaign. He represents the pavement school of Liberal politics, which has usually been at odds with the party's shadow statesmen.

Mr Steel also demands to know why someone is not doing something about the Young Liberals, cavorting with Mr Ken Livingstone and Sinn Féin, and vulnerable, he suspects, to entrisms. He also has a smack at Mr Cyril Smith for not putting his weight in the Liberal "front bench" in the Commons.

One has supposed that since Mr Steel has so long and so successfully laboured in the vineyard of the Liberal party he must have become acclimatized to the disorderly dotiness that has always enriched its proceedings. Something has now happened to turn indulgence into exasperation.

That something - apart from any change in how Mr Steel personally is feeling - must be the fact that the Liberal party now stands within reach of political power. It is no longer just a ginger group, a vehicle for political ideas on their way in or their way out, a phenomenon of the Celtic fringe, a gymnasium for working out political fantasies. There is now a real possibility that it may come to form a major part of the first alternative to Conservative government.

Mr Thatcher, according to an

interview she gave the other day, now sees the Liberal party in that light. It is certainly Mr Steel's ambition to make it so. That was the heart of the letter.

I am certainly willing and indeed keen to continue as leader, but only on the basis that the party itself is gearing its efforts to offering an alternative government to Mrs Thatcher at the next general election.

If it wants to ponder about the sidelines I will be happy to remain a loyal member but not to continue indefinitely as leader.

Mr Steel is not the first leader of the Liberal Party to try to galvanize his membership in the serious pursuit of political power. Mr Grimmond, marched his troops towards the sound of gunfire (imagery aptly presaging the red meat of politics). But Mr Steel is the first post-war Liberal leader to stand in a position from which the appeal sounds forth as more than bagdadocio.

If the Liberal Party is to convince the voters that its trust and its men are fit to be trusted with a primary share in government it will have to reform its political manners. Responsibility calls for another style. If Prince Hal is to become King Harry, foolishness will have to be banished from the court. The party will also have to get its developing relationship with the Social Democratic Party right. Mr Steel is abundantly justified in trying to concentrate the minds of his colleagues and supporters on these matters ahead of their annual conference. Whether his abrasive way of doing it will go down well or badly is at this stage a question for specialists in the psychology of Liberalism.

Mr Steel's letter is a predictable response (August 19) to your constructive and forward-looking leader (August 17) emphasizes the ingrained opposition which will have to be overcome in any attempt to drag NATO's strategic doctrine into the eighties and simultaneously to modernize Britain's military role in the Alliance in line with developments in technology and weapons, with the changed nature of the Soviet threat and, above all, with the realities of Britain's economic resources.

Those who support so stridently

Second thoughts about the Rhine

From Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeech

Sir, General Sir David Fraser has argued (August 19) that the advantages which you ascribe to taking BAOR out of the line are illusory. In supporting him, I would go further. Such a course would, I believe, be prejudicial to Britain's security and endanger the peace of Europe.

The political reasons for the British commitment remain of overriding importance. These hinge, surely, upon the necessity to provide the Federal German Republic, as a non-nuclear Power, with adequate security. Failure to do so might well bring about a perception of insecurity in West Germany which would lead to a demand for increased armed strength. This the Soviet Union could only view with apprehension, with the possibility of pre-emptive attack.

The feasibility of raising the nuclear threshold by exploiting the much more effective non-nuclear weapons now being developed may well lead to the need to withdraw BAOR. If so, some modification of the British commitment may be agreeable to our Allies as well as to ourselves. Until then, perhaps we should re-examine the way in which it is proposed to deploy and operate the not inconceivable naval and air forces available to NATO in north-west Europe, against the defence of shipping, and the destruction of Soviet Naval air forces if they should attack.

It seems to be somewhat inconsistent, to say the least, to complain of the West German Navy "wasting resources" acquiring an Atlantic capability while expressing concern about NATO's flanks and rear. As much flexibility of sea-air power as we and our Allies can achieve is essential in order to cope with the unpredictable event against which you so wisely warn.

Yours faithfully,
IAN MCGEECH
Southern,
Castle Hedingham,
Halstead,
Essex,
August 20.

From Mr Michael Chichester

Sir, General Sir David Fraser's predictable response (August 19) to your constructive and forward-looking leader (August 17) emphasizes the ingrained opposition which will have to be overcome in any attempt to drag NATO's strategic doctrine into the eighties and simultaneously to modernize Britain's military role in the Alliance in line with developments in technology and weapons, with the changed nature of the Soviet threat and, above all, with the realities of Britain's economic resources.

Those who support so stridently

Green Man mysticism

From Dr Adrian Flick

Sir, Paul Pickering's sceptical reference to Herne the Hunter's "socialist mysticism" (feature, August 4) culpably underestimates Herne's perennial role in English culture - albeit in his better-known persona of Green Man - as the revolutionary challenger of received assumptions.

Popularly acclaimed for his appearances in May Day ceremonies, on pub signs and in cathedrals, the Green Man is no stranger to films. Last Christmas, television viewers had a chance to see Nigel Green play his most celebrated literary namesake in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.

That a medieval poem should be filmed at all is proof of the Green Man's power to revive and revive, and in the poem his role is precisely to challenge the establishment and question its complacency.

Coming forward in time, it is significant that Shakespeare's *Lea* ("fantastically dressed with flowers", IV, vi) should play the Green Man once he has become aware of his

shameful neglect of the people; and that Malcolm should instruct his soldiers to do likewise (*Macbeth*, V, iv: "Let every soldier here him down a bough...") to achieve tyranny's overthrow.

In our own day Gladys Mitchell, Henry Treece, John Heath-Stubs, Kingsley Amis and Peter Vansittart have revived the Green Man for English literature. Few, it must be conceded, have envisioned him in socialist terms; and I myself, as Jack-in-the-Green for last year's GLC May Day Festival, earned only rebukes for irrelevance from Young Socialists present (as well as skirmishes with skinheads).

All the more welcome, therefore, is this socialist socialization of Robin Hood. It is to be hoped that a poet or novelist will equally rise to the challenge of giving this folk figure the leftist reincarnation he deserves, sufficient to convert sceptics of all parties to a renewed vision of Herne's centrality to our culture.

Yours etc,
ADRIAN FLICK,
The Abbot,
9 Broadhurst Gardens, NW6.

an institution of very high reputation with which we have nothing to compare yet in this country.

The first step on the road to a British version of the ENA is to change the rules regarding mobility at the top of the Civil Service so that people like George Walden can enter politics and return at a later date to the Diplomatic Service without loss of pension rights, etc. Such mobility is perfectly possible in the French Civil Service and encourages a high level of entrant to the ENA who is not dedicated to spending his entire career as a civil servant.

Yours faithfully,
J. COVENEY,
University of Bath,
School of Modern Languages,
Claverton Down,
Bath,
August 16.

successful and Roland Rat a valued member of this team. Accordingly, at the outset of our first school holidays, he was duly given his head. His ratings, and subsequently *Good Morning Britain's* ratings, improved dramatically. As a consequence, Roland Rat and TV-am seem, in the eyes of some of our Fleet Street rivals, to be synonymous.

But to judge our overall output solely by the Rat is like seeking shifts in BBC policy through an in-depth analysis of the political stance of *Blue Peter* - or maybe its balanced successor, *Red Peter*. Should any journalist - like rodents, perhaps nocturnal - steel himself to rise early enough to join the increasing number of the public at large who watch TV-am's general output he would find a programme not only free of rats but containing a variety of items, popular and serious.

To give recent instances: our coverage of the general election was widely considered to be balanced and authoritative. TV-am News was alert to providing the first pictures of the Sicily Islands air disaster; we

Mobility at the top

From Professor J. Covey

Sir, Mr George Walden's article "On your bikes at the top" (August 5) suggesting the establishment of a British version of the French Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) is very timely, in view of the changes being made in the management of the Civil Service.

However, Professor P. G. Moore has missed the point in his letter (August 11) when he states that we already have parallels to the ENA in the UK in the shape of business schools, such as those at London and Manchester. The French, too, have their elitist business schools which are the true parallels with the UK business schools; they even have an international business school, INSEAD at Fontainebleau.

But at least until really shaken, Dr Wood's fellow-citizens will not be easily persuaded that they ought to be worrying about the movement of tectonic plates beneath the British crust. They have other things on their minds. If his strictures do find a response in Whitehall, the Home Office's revived civil defence effort might be adapted for post-quake operations. And should the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse land at Heathrow, well, the SAS are trained to handle that.

Let us never forget how vital these posts are, how ineffective training courses are in developing the necessary qualities in those that do not have them, and how carefully therefore their holders must be preselected - as Trevelyan and Northcote pointed out in the 1860s, as Haldane reiterated in 1918 and as Edward Bridges maintained to the end of his distinguished career.

Yours faithfully,
R. C. GRIFFITHS,
2 St Albans Villas, NW5.

specialist functions, but such paragon are rare.

Let us never forget how vital these posts are, how ineffective training courses are in developing the necessary qualities in those that do not have them, and how carefully therefore their holders must be preselected - as Trevelyan and Northcote pointed out in the 1860s, as Haldane reiterated in 1918 and as Edward Bridges maintained to the end of his distinguished career.

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in fact TV-am produces more hours of television than any other commercial television company. Of these 21 hours a week, some two hours are devoted to weekends to children's programmes with an additional half-hour during school holidays. The nature of this output was spelt out in some detail in our franchise application and thus forms part of our undertakings to the IBA.

Since going on air our children's department has been consistently

have active and successful consumer and investigative units as well as providing unashamedly popular "tabloid" summertime entertainment live from all parts of Britain.

All this is consistent with our original franchise application in which we spoke of our aspirations towards "popular journalism in all its facets". These are still our aims, as they are those of the publicly-funded producers of the BBC's highly professional, if vastly more expensive, *Breakfast Time*.

But perhaps what ranks most about our new-found anthropomorphic identity is the growing realisation that both the means and the end of "popular" and "commercial" success are considered by our more erudite critics to be somehow intrinsically distasteful or discreditable. In our view they are neither.

Yours etc,
MICHAEL DEAKIN,
Director of Programmes, TV-am,
Broadcast Television Centre,
Hawley Crescent, NW1,
August 25.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS WAYNE,
Eing-Brachidh,
Lochinver,
Lair,
Sutherland,
August 11.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS WAYNE,
Eing-Brachidh,
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Sutherland,
August 11.

Aims of picture gallery at Lord's

From Mr E. W. Swanton

Sir, Reporting on allegations concerning the authenticity of a number of pictures hanging at Lord's you correctly say (*The Times*, August 22) that our display is "nonetheless the most comprehensive collection of cricket memorabilia in the world". Your comment exactly expresses the aim of MCC since its famous treasurer, Sir Spencer Ponsonby-Fane, started in 1864 the collecting process which still continues today.

Our object is to present the game and its history, not to rival the Tate Gallery - though several of the pictures whose authenticity is now questioned have been shown there.

The oil paintings in dispute are those collected by the first Sir Jeremiah Colman, whose son of the same name, father of the present baronet, Sir Michael, in 1947 generously donated to the MCC the 52 oils and 50 prints illustrated in *The Noble Game of Cricket*, published by his father. No doubt is cast on the prints nor on pictures of high quality such as "Village Cricket", by John Ritchie.

Others are not given a high artistic (or insurance) rating. In several cases Miss Diana Rait-Kerr, then Curator, whose work in re-assembling the club's collection after the war, incorporating the Colman collection and furnishing the newly-built Memorial Gallery, won general acclaim, especially in the labels accompanying them her own reservations.

The *Mail on Sunday*, in a long debunking feature, characterized the collection as "to a large degree worthless rubbish", apparently on the evidence of Robin Simon who, with Professor Alastair Smart, is showing in several places an

Local income tax

From Mrs Laura Grimond

Sir, Your leading article, "Tied hand and foot" (August 2) suggests that "there is no consensus on an alternative to the rates". But is this any longer true?

On yesterday morning's Radio 4 programme we heard a Tory MP make an eloquent plea for a local income tax, recommended seven years ago by the Layfield committee and supported today by people of all parties in local government, such as the present convenor of Strathclyde Regional Council and Mrs Patricia Kirwan, of the GLC (author of *Londoners and the Rates*), as well as others in academic circles and financial journalism.

The Liberal Party, at its Assembly in 1982, passed by an overwhelming majority a comprehensive policy on local government finance of which two main features were a reformed system of grant and a local income tax (LIT), while its allies in the SDP also favour it as an additional tax to rates. Amongst those who have given the matter serious consideration it would seem that there is now a consensus that LIT is the only alternative to rates and many believe that it is a better one.

What then is the obstacle to its introduction? It is hardly credible in an age when children speak the language of computer technology which the silicon chip has almost

Motorway accidents

From Dr Edmund J. Cantilli

Sir, I have been in London participating in the Institute of Transportation Engineers' fifty-third annual meeting at Kensington Town Hall, and I read your letter to the Editor on August 20 entitled "When speed limits fail to save lives".

Mr Michael Macoun, in commenting on August 17's "disaster on the M4", when "a truck careered out of control across the central reservation", points to North America as a case in point, where the "maximum speed permitted is 55-65 mph", as, apparently, a solution.

I cannot speak for Canada (or Mexico), but I would assure Mr Macoun that, in the US at least, the 55 mph limit, which applies to every state, is not enforced and, indeed, is considered unenforceable.

But the solution to accidents of the type mentioned is contained in Mr Macoun's words describing a truck careered "out of control across the central reservation". There is no good reason for a vehicle of any size to be permitted to cross the central reservation. Proper barriers should be erected to prevent this type of accident from ever occurring again.

Yours etc,
EDMUND J. CANTILLI,
Professor, Transportation,
The Polytechnic Institute of New York,
333 Jay Street,
Brooklyn, NY 11201, USA.

Yours faithfully,
FREDERICK GORE,
Flat 3,
35 Elm Park Gardens, SW10,
August 24.

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August 24.

exhibition with a catalogue entitled *The Art of Cricket*.

These gentlemen in their preface write: "It would have been impossible to write the book at all without long study of the basic collection of works in the Memorial Gallery at Lord's without the privilege of access to the MCC archives, generously made available to us by the Curator at Lord's, Mr Stephen Green, to whom we are indebted for many kindnesses."

Accusing MCC of deception, the *Mail on Sunday* itself deceives. Two eighteenth-century pictures are shown one above the other, divided by a caption inferring that the one labelled "fake" is the one on display at Lord's. The truth is precisely the opposite.

Implying MCC ignorance, the article queries the exact location of a match of 1860 near Charles Dickens' house, Gadshill Place, Rochester, and also the involvement of his 11-year-old son, and repeats exactly the points made in the label in the Memorial Gallery.

Of the 250-odd illustrations of all sorts at present on display at Lord's about 30 pictures are in need of label revision or replacement. This is being put promptly in hand. Meanwhile cricket-lovers will no doubt continue to patronize the exhibition of cricketers at Lord's, as do thousands each year, either individually or in groups - at a cost of 50p, not 75p as stated.

All in all it may be thought that Mr Simon has not played with an

impossibly straight bat. Yours faithfully,
E. W. SWANTON,
(Chairman, MCC Arts and Library Subcommittee),
Delf House, Sandwich, Kent,
August 25.

turned into a toy, that the cost and complication of calculating and collecting LIT prevents its introduction, already found possible in Canada and five European countries including Denmark, whose Kommuner are even LIT collectors. Is it rather that the idea is anathema to the Treasury, who are unwilling to surrender what they see as a tool of economic management?

The record shows that local government has increased its spending less than has central government. Its follies come under closer scrutiny, where it fails in accountability and in the motivation of its electors to act as effective policemen of local expenditure.

There are 24 million income taxpayers but only 15 million rate payers. Local elections, in which, according to the Director of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, only 17 per cent of those who vote actually pay rates, do not surprisingly reflect national rather than local issues. The reason for inadequate democracy is not to transfer control to central government, which you, Sir, so well argue is not equipped to carry out the task, but to make it work better by reforming its system of finance.

I am, yours etc,
LAURA GRIMOND,
Old Manse,
Firth,
Kirkwall,
Orkney,
August 3.

Yours faithfully,
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Old Manse,
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August 3.

ODD MAN OUT AT MADRID

Plucky little Malta again stands alone, defending itself from the combined onslaught of the thirty-four other countries represented at the European security conference in Madrid. It is a matter of considerable significance that a meeting of foreign ministers next month could provide an opportunity for the US Secretary of State George Shultz to hold talks with the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in an effort to improve relations between the super-powers. But the Maltese delegation appears to give more weight to including in the final conference document an agreement on holding discussions on security and arms reductions in the Mediterranean area.

Insisting on these worthy aims, however, has prevented the participating countries - the United States, Canada and all European states except Albania - reaching the consensus required for the formal signing of the document concluding the three-year Madrid follow-up to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). In desperation Spain has now arranged a "political meeting" in September to endorse the final agreement, but unless Malta yields beforehand, this will not have formal CSCE standing.

The strains in East-West

relations have provided more than enough complex problems to keep delegates arguing interminably without introducing the Pandora's box of the Mediterranean and Middle East. Nonetheless, at Helsinki in 1975 Malta managed to insert in the Final Act a vague reference to the relationship which exists "in the broader context of world security, between security in Europe and security in the Mediterranean area". At Belgrade in 1978 Malta pressed successfully for a gathering of experts on Mediterranean cooperation to be held the following year in Valletta, but at the Madrid follow-up the Maltese delegation failed to win support even from the non-aligned countries. Neither the Finns nor the Swedes succeeded with their compromise proposals, and in a rare show of agreement both the United States and the USSR have denounced Malta for blocking the conclusion of the conference.

In Malta itself Mr Dom Mintoff's ruling Labour Party is opposed on this issue by the Nationalist Party, which argues that he has no mandate from the other Mediterranean countries to speak on their behalf, and agrees with the general European view that his proposals are impractical. Mr Mintoff, however, en-

couraged by the support he received at the last non-aligned summit in Delhi, persists in his efforts to promote Malta as the meeting place of European and northern African civilizations and to give it an international role greater than that of most countries with a population of less than a third of a million.

The real significance of the CSCE is as an international forum to discuss the observance of human rights in participating countries - an element in the trust without which no genuine disarmament is possible. Yet delegates have agreed to hold a European disarmament conference next January in Stockholm, allowing Moscow to treat it as a separate and more important matter than the discussions on human rights at Ottawa in May 1985 and on family reunification in Berne in April 1986 - to be held only months before the next general follow-up conference in Vienna.

The principles underlying disarmament and human rights are related and should be defended with the stubbornness now shown by Malta in less practical ways. The frustration felt by negotiators at the CSCE is understandable, but for all its shortcomings it is a forum worth preserving.

SHAKEN TO THE CORE

A claim that parts of Kent and Canvey Island, with its vulnerable concentration of oil and gas installations, could be hit by a "large earthquake" invites scepticism, like a report that the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse had asked for clearance to land at Heathrow. There is something millenarian, almost Monty Pythonesque about it. Yet it was the subject of discussion this week in Brighton at that serious forum, the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr Robert Muir Wood, a senior geologist with the engineering consultants, Principia Mechanica, displaying the fruits of his research into British earthquakes since the year 600, ended with a plea for the British, who "still believe earthquakes are about as English as pizza", to take the matter

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THE TIMES Saturday

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27 AUGUST - 2 SEPTEMBER 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Ronald Faux finds the acceptable face of hang-gliding, a sport which has made great strides towards improving its safety record

Easy glider

Sunday morning in Rochdale and the early sun is trying to melt the empty car park outside the Tesco supermarket. A small group of student hang-glider pilots - local lads of several sizes and shapes and walks of life who share a Daedalus urge - waits for its chief flying instructor to turn up.

Car roof-racks are loaded with the bright cocoons of furled aircraft that overlap bonnet and boot. Tony Delaney arrives. He is a wiry, fair-haired man, with an enthusiasm for leaping off hillsides supported only by a few square feet of billowing sailcloth. He also has the patience and perseverance to pass on that ability safely to others. But not today.

He gives the sky a critical look, sniffs the air and looks pessimistic. Not a breath of breeze is stirring in the centre of Rochdale. "Sorry lads, flying's off today. There's no lift," he announces. No one protests. They accept that without a reasonable rush of air, trying to hang-glide is as pointless as sliding down a sand dune.

The others disperse, but I stay for my first lesson in the car park. Mr. Delaney and his assistant, who is about to train us a fighter pilot in the RAF, rig up what resembles an aluminium gibbet. I slip on a harness of straps, lift my legs and dangle there.

Tony Delaney directs my hands to a large aluminium triangle on the simulator and describes how I should shift my weight from side to side to make the glider turn. "Look ahead," he insists, and I fix my sights sternly on a shrub 40ft away. I try to imagine myself prone beneath the elegant sweep of a delta wing with the world swirling beneath me, but it is difficult.

The Northern School of Hang-Gliding normally teaches its pupils on Lobstone Moor, a few miles out of town. Tony Delaney's opinion about flying conditions was confirmed when we got there. A pupil from the school waited at the bottom of the hill disconsolately. It was a hopeless day, he said. He had made a couple of flights but had come down the hill like a rock. "I gave up because the fracture in my foot is not properly healed yet."

A hang-gliding accident? Not really. He had found lugging his folded machine to the hilltop such hard work that he had taken up jogging to get fit. He was out jogging when he tripped up and broke his foot.

He insisted that hang-gliding was a perfectly safe sport - even the insurance companies now accepted that as a fact, and they were shrewd judges.

Even so, I asked, the human leg was surely never designed to double as an aircraft undercarriage? Nonsense, had I ever seen a bird with fat legs? The secret was to land with such gentleness that the strain would be no more than stepping off a slow-moving bus.

Gerry Breen, one of the foremost hang-gliding and light aviation pioneers in Britain, admitted that there was a danger in the early days of the sport but times had changed. He remembered launching himself off hillsides strapped to the most chilling contraptions made from bamboo, string, polythene and Sellotape. Hang-gliders were now highly developed aircraft, stable and rugged despite their looks. They could ride the wind securely and climb to 8,000 ft or more.

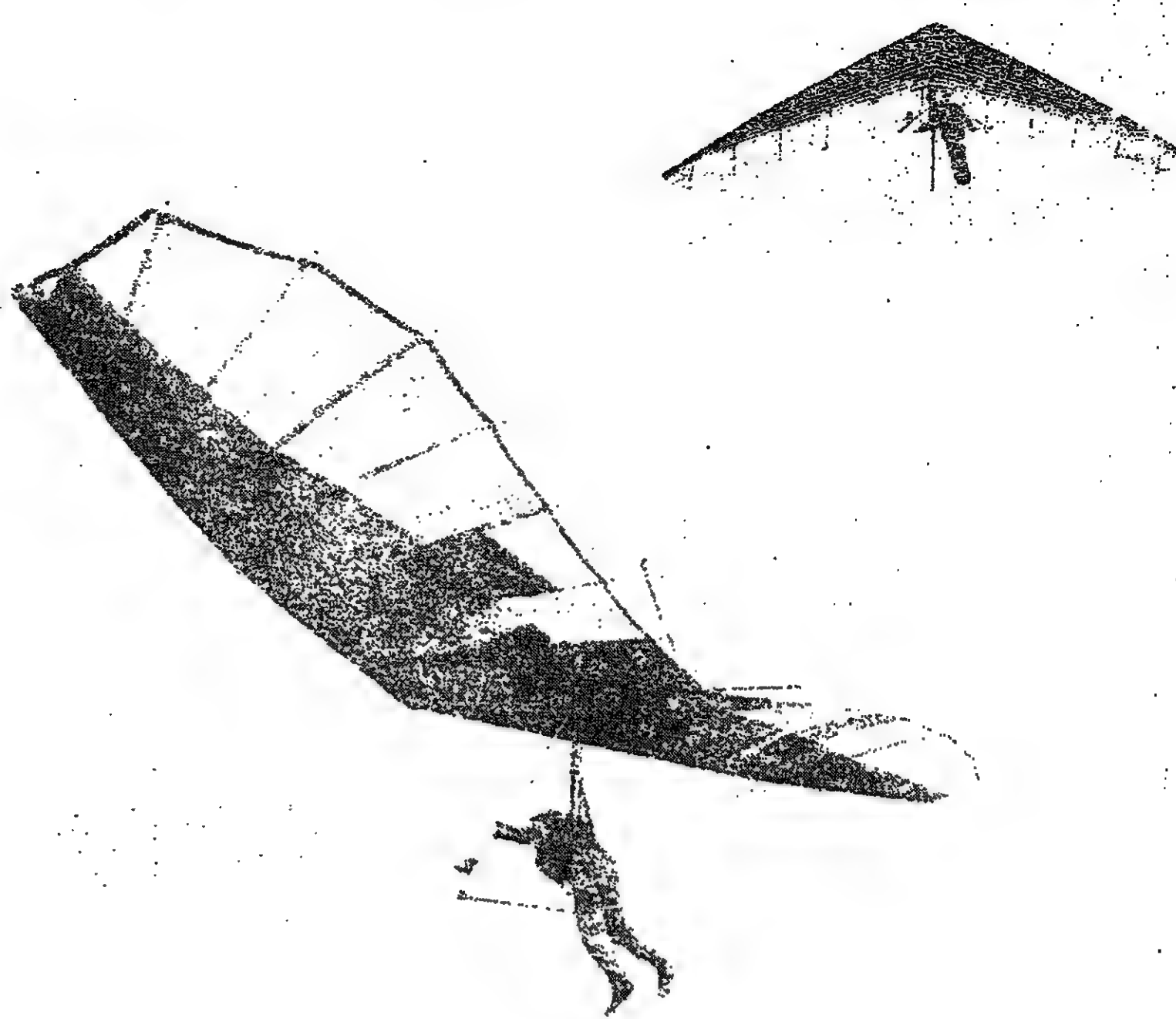
Eventually, when the wind pipes up on Lobstone Moor, I will continue my training with a thorough briefing in aerodynamics, and the theory of how these delta-shaped aircraft, an early spin-off from the American space programme, actually fly. I will be taught how to rig the glider and allowed to make a few tentative hops off the ground.

From there a student progresses to tethered flight. He is strapped to the glider, which is flown like a kite with three control ropes held by instructors on the ground. The trainee learns the subtleties of controlling the machine until the wing-tether is removed to allow more rope. Finally the machine is freed for the first solo flight.

Hang-gliders are directed and controlled as the pilot shifts his body weight relative to the wing. Tony Delaney said: "The best way is to imagine that the aircraft is an extension of your body. With practice the amount of control becomes very precise." It makes free flying safe and feasible even in a country crowded with rooftops and tall trees, glasshouses and thorn hedges, air-space restrictions and volatile weather.

People of reasonable nerve, balance and coordination who keenly want to fly are usually untethered and making their first downhill solo after three days' training, although gusty weather can cause delay. Within five days the student may have qualified as a "Pilot One", fledged but with a lot to learn.

Tony Delaney says: "We may lose contact at that point. All students are obliged to become members of the British Hang-Gliding Association (BHGA).



Up on the Downs with the wind in their favour: Members of the Southern Hang-Gliding Club hang fast and loose on their flights at Frl Beacon in Kent

and when they leave the training school they usually join their local club. They fly on their local hills under the guidance of their club training officer."

There are some crucial manoeuvres to master. The circle turn is often a sensitive one. Flying into the wind a hang-glider is relatively easy to control, but downwind the aircraft accelerates and loses altitude rapidly.

Further progress extends to ridge soaring, riding the thrust of air as it strikes the edge of a hill, or circling in the bubbles of warm air that form thermals for extended flights. Finally, there is the challenge of cross-country flying, feasible on high-performance machines. The British record set last year by Robert Calvert of Preston is around 112 miles.

There are some 3,500 hang-glider pilots in Britain, a small minority of whom take part in the international circuit of competitions. These are the ultimate challenge in the sport, and British pilots have won a dominating position in spite of Britain's relatively low hills and restricted air space.

It is easy to accept that hang-gliding is an exhilarating sport and the closest to true flying, but is the risk justified? According to Mr Barry Blore, principal executive officer of the BHGA, as an adventure sport

hang-gliding is less risky than any other. In the last two years there have been five fatal accidents. Five years ago, with half the number of pilots spending less time in the air, 18 people died in a year.

The agreement between the BHGA and the manufacturers of hang-gliders to sell aircraft only to the holders of pilot certificates is not legally binding but is strictly followed. According to the BHGA, 95 per cent of hang-gliding accidents can be attributed to pilot error. The most vulnerable pilots appear to be those who have qualified as Pilot Ones then joined a club where the training facilities are less well organized.

The most dangerous point occurs when a pilot allows his aircraft to go too slowly when the wind is blowing from behind. The hang-glider speeds up rapidly over the ground, but the actual rush of air over the wings may not be enough to keep the aircraft aloft. A downwind stall then happens, and if the aircraft is less than 100ft from the ground, recovery is impossible. A crash is inevitable.

There are very few cases on record in recent years of aircraft failure. Two accidents have happened which were caused by premature deployment of a parachute designed to bring both pilot and machine safely to earth if the hang-glider should

be damaged by collision or extreme turbulence. Altogether 133 incidents were reported last year to the BHGA in which no one was seriously injured. Only 17 happened at flying training centres, and more than half were from hitting trees, walls, hang-gliders on the ground and a telegraph pole as the pilot came in to land.

Improvements in training and aircraft design have reached a point where hang-gliding is more than acceptably safe: it is the cheapest form of flying. "That accepted, there is clearly some risk," Mr Blore said. "If there wasn't, nobody would bother to do it."

The governing body of the sport, the British Hang-Gliding Association, is at 157A Cheddton Road, Taunton, Somerset (0823 88140). The Association provides a list of the 22 approved training centres which organize courses in Britain.

The Northern School of Hang-Gliding is at 65 Highbury Avenue, Irian, Manchester (061775 4422). The school offers five-day courses, £15 a day for students and the unemployed, otherwise £22.50 per weekend and £25 each Saturday and Sunday. Aircraft and kit are provided. Secondhand machines suitable for a beginner will cost from £250. A new top performance hang-glider will cost up to £1,000. An excellent practical guide to the sport is given in *Hang Gliding Pilot* by Ann Welch and Gerry Breen (John Murray, London), £4.50.

Woman in the sky with no hang-ups



Hang-glider: Gill Pyrah

It was a short film I saw that started it, as I remember. Wobbly shots from a camera strapped to the frame of a hang-glider recorded every lift and swoop and breathtaking turn over tree tops and along mountain ridges. It was an old film and the unrefined hang-gliders - kites was their familiar name then - could do little more than fly down from a hill.

Even so, I had to do it. Now, I'm not sporty. Team games always left me cold - or far too hot. In the summer, tennis courts were for lounging round in whites, with streaky, tan-painted legs. Girlfriends could beat me easily. That was ignominy enough. But boys had the unfair advantage of build, and I could find no pleasure in giving them the chance to prove me inferior. But this hang-gliding looked beautiful.

By luck, we arrived at the Welsh Hang Gliding Centre at Crickhowell on the first good flying day they had had for weeks, so our instructors abandoned the beginners' day of theory and took us straight up the hillside. We struggled to gain control of a contraption which, weighing 60lb or so, was yards wide and flitted willfully with every passing breath of wind. The wind, that day, became so strong we could tether the gliders to the ground and they flew straight up, like kites.

Gerry Breen (our hero) was bursting to try his brand new glider. The evening wind was strong enough for it to carry two. Being female, so relatively light, the flight was mine. (Don't knock the system when it's with you.)

Green-black storm clouds were orange-lined and rolling away as the sun began to set. We moved to the hillside and simply stepped off. As easy as

that. There was a surge of power as the wing inflated and the nose fought for equilibrium with the head wind. The sudden speed was surprising, exhilarating. I was flying. Adrenaline beamed to the brain. I was as high as a kite.

In the next days I learned - too late to be disenchanted - that it does take strength to carry the thing up a hill, but only until you have picked up the trick of holding the wires and letting it "fly" itself back up. Weakness and laziness were good teachers. The first solo steps and few yards in flight were full of dizzying, unspecific apprehension. But it seemed to me that the men appreciated the chances of broken backs or crushed skulls more than most of the women: only one was too scared to leave the ground.

Indoors, taking lessons in the theory, I cursed past schools. Why didn't I - or the other females - know about air pressure and how it caused a right-shaped wing to fly? We had no vocabulary of vectors or sink and lift or thermals. But in our ignorance, we had no fear of flying.

Jes Flynn, who is at the centre this year, says 50 per cent of the inquiries about courses come from women. Very few book up - only one in two months, this summer. He reckons that only one in 10 women who learn, stick with the sport; perhaps one in five men

do. Pressed to give an explanation for the discrepancies, Jes answered: money, muscle and motor cars. Does he notice any gender difference in attitudes to flying once they are there? "Women," he says, "come along for the aesthetic airy freedom side of things. Guys tend to be more into the gun-ho Red Baron stuff."

Of the handful of women who are internationally known as hang-glider pilots, Judy Leden is the best in Britain; her fans say the world. She took it up in 1979, and within weeks became so obsessed that she left university to take a job - any job - that would keep her in petrol and gliders. On her first flight, she reports that she giggled all the way down, and for the first few months she knew there would always be a rush of adrenaline. But now, when she spends every weekend flying, it's more low-key and rarely frightening.

In July, Judy beat the both-sex distance record of 139 miles by flying 147 miles in a Californian desert. The record was taken from her the same day, so hers became the "ladies' distance" record. It does not seem to matter. Judy is often the only woman flying from a site, but it is a matter of indifference to her and she thinks, to other fliers. It is not a macho sport; strength is not important, skill is.

Gill Pyrah

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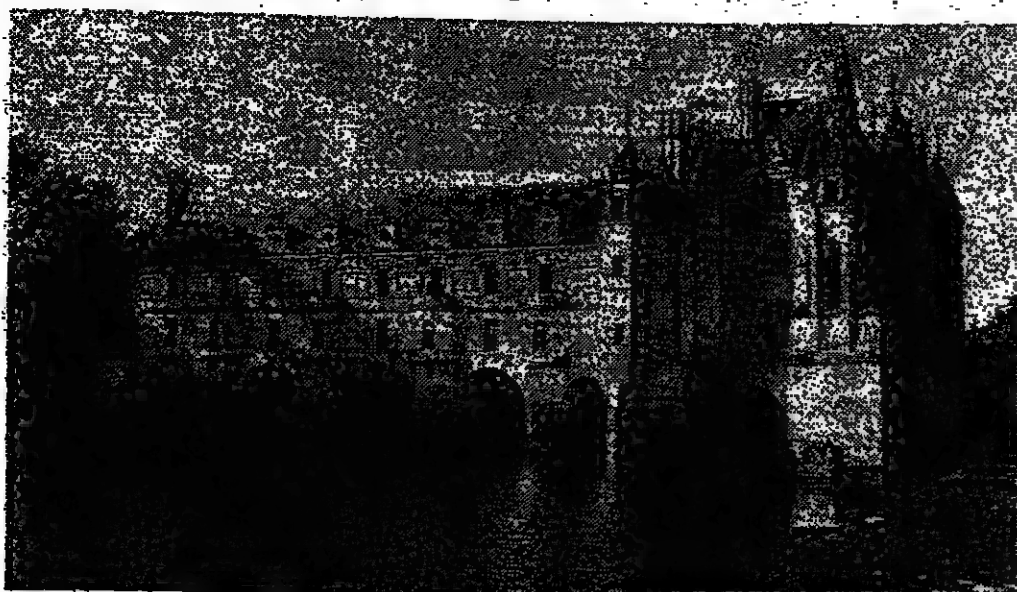
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TRAVEL/2

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Never too old for the open road or fairytale castles



Way to the heart of France: Through the Loire and towns like the Chateau de Chenonceau

"You will want to see the birthplace of Rabelais", she said, swerving round a juggernaut. Not that we had much choice, with our rucksacks already stacked under the bonnet of her VW and the three of us beeping along the road from Chinon to Saumur. It was, she said, only a few kilometres out of our way. "I will take you."

So there we were at La Devinière, a fifteenth-century cottage festooned with drawings, maps, curling photographs and illustrations of Rabelaisian characters. A fortune, certainly, but not, perhaps the birthplace. Rabelais was born between 1483 and 1494, at a time when custom obliged expectant bourgeois women to set off for their country houses the moment labour began. If one can believe *Gargantua* - more or less his autobiography - Madame Rabelais brought the great man into the world somewhere along the road we had just travelled, probably soon after a vicious bump.

Outside, Marie, our benefactress, waited patiently, smoking Dunhills. You are thirsty perhaps? Come, we will have a drink *chez moi*.

Then, in her eighteenth-century kitchen, its long walls encrusted with fine-art posters, we were introduced to her daughter and to the local *rouge*, poured from an unlabelled bottle. Marie was a teacher at a lycée in Chinon. Like us, she had seen the stunning Monet exhibition in Paris. We compared posters (hers, she explained, were to cover cracks in the plaster). We must come and stay, any time. There were many unused rooms.

Returning to the main road, we were shown the schoolhouse of Rabelais, and admired what may be the last fortified farmhouse in the Loire. Then a tedious half-hour by the road, a side while the French, with an impressive display of body language, articulated their reasons for not giving us a lift. Finally we made it to Saumur, where we were horribly cheated at a tourist café.

"I love France, but I hate the French", an English emigrant told us in Paris. "They're mean-minded and they'll cheat you when they can." Like most generalizations, it told us more about its author than its subject. In the Loire, the heart of France, we found much kindness: information offered, maps

given free, a five-mile diversion to take us to a camp site.

For these small mercies I was grateful, for it had been many years since I had "hitch-hiked". The call of the open road had grown faint. But mortgage bank loan and the cost of taking a car across the Channel combined to rule out a foreign holiday, or so it seemed. Cunningly, my wife and I caught a bus to Paris (£28 return) and thwarted the forces of stringency. From there we took a train to Chartres, and from there we struck out on our thumbs. We reckoned that by hitchhiking and camping we could eat and drink our fill for a week and still return with change from £100. Only the lure of this duty-free shop defeated us.

And, of course, there is simply nothing to beat eating in France. The sensitivity of service, the smiling *bon appetit*, the crusty bread, the prices... For 48¢ in La Cafetière in Vendôme - and picture a quiet garden in July on the banks of Le Loir (not to be confused with its grander sister) - and 10 candlelit tables as dusk falls - I had lapin à la maitre (wonderfully stuffed), a salad mixed as only the French can mix them, a home-made sorbet.

At midnight we strolled happily back to the municipal camping site in which Vendôme, like most French towns, takes such pride. In front of our tent stood a Gallic figure in pyjamas, shining a torch into the river.

"Qu'est-ce que vous cherchez, monsieur?" He answered not, but pointed to the shallows where small fish wriggled, mesmerized by the glare. With a net, he would have been a poacher, but he was just a curious amateur naturalist. And so to bed, we to our £24 Korean tent, he to his caravan, to watch his colour television, for the French take camping seriously. Their tents are mar-

quees. Their barbecues are Le Crueset. Sometimes they have nameplates stuck in the ground: Mon Repos.

Vendôme is a pretty town, built on an island, with steep stone roofs and small streets interspersed with hump-backed bridges over rivulets; yet it is off the tourist track and we heard not one English voice there. The glories of the town are its flamboyant abbey church and its twelfth-century belfry; they are said to have inspired the two contrasting towers at Chartres.

Rabelais went to school there and left because of poor health. My grandmother, too, was born and raised there; she left for an Englishman. In a café we met three old men who remembered her, and solemnly shook hands, French fashion.

From there to Blois, where a doughty lady picked out the English at the chateau gate by their shoes and socks, and bloodcurdled us round the almost empty rooms (the French count tended to take their furniture with them; I suspect it all landed up in Versailles). Here we heard the terrible tale of the Duc de Guise, all France behind him, pressing King Henri to return to the true faith. The King stood here, behind the curtain. Two rooms away, his men waited to stab the duke, who fell, mortally wounded at the King's feet, here. And now to the bedroom of...

From Blois, courtesy of a silent farmer who played Handel on his car cassette as we followed the meandering Loire, to Azay-le-Rideau, a tiny town but boasting a fairytale chateau: a Renaissance gem, the guide book said. The town keeps it well hidden, unless you pay. Like Blois, its facade is its fortune. It is screened by the trees of the Indre, which like the Vienne, Cher and Loir, feeds



Yennya

the big river as it slugs along to the Bay of Biscay.

The villages on these tributaries are the region's charms, and Azay is no exception, with winding streets, white-washed houses, an eleventh-century church. We camped by the river.

Next day, from a *dégustation* (wine-tasting) in a converted garage, we chose a medium dry local white (13¢), from a *charcuterie*, fresh salmon and Muscadet, pâté and rillettes (strands of soft pork), and a *Touraine* speciality.

We climbed past kitchen gardens, not a grain of soil wasted, along roads lined with sweet and horse chestnut and ripening walnut, their verges a profusion of vetch, lords-and-ladies, cornflower and poppies (little pollution here), and we feasted.

Coming back we passed a troglodyte dwelling, carved from the soft tufa bequeathed by the retreating sea to the meadows and mushroom-growers of the Loire. Everywhere you look there are caves. People digging *sous le mur* in Saumur gave the town not only its name, but also a handy place to make and store its wine.

The troglodyte dwelling - three small caves, and the washing hanging outside - warranted a picture, but the click of the Instamatic on a silent afternoon produced a troglodyte dog which saw us back to Azay at a trot. There, the thunderstorms which killed seven carpenters that week were gathering rank.

When they came, they timed it well. The *son et lumière* at the moated chateau, a tantalizing river's bend from our tent, gave us a treat, and we were listening entranced to the lutes, harps and choirs when the first lightning flashed. We thought it was part of the show.

The *son et lumière* that followed was real enough, and lasted all night. The thunder shook the ground and we were terrified to touch the metal tent poles. Despite the skills of the Koreans, and the assurances of the shop assistant, the rain filtered through the nylon and dripped upon us.

I was struck by a thought. "I think," I said, "that I might be getting too old for all this."

There's a bottle of red in my rucksack for all this. In the Loire, they have nature balanced very nicely.

Peter Brown



Rabelais: Born travelling



Both Michelin and Letts publish camping guides to France. Neither is comprehensive just take up rucksack room. Better to arrive at a town and ask for a site - no need to book if you only have a tent. For general information, the Michelin Guide Vert, Chateaux de la Loire is excellent. For eating out try Le Grand Mousquetaire by Alain-Fournier (Penguin, £1.50), set in the Loire.

Brief encounter with an agreeable Alsatian

From the British point of view the advantage of Colmar is that it is on the Victoria line. The cross-Channel rail connection with the 10.30am boat train from Victoria stops at Colmar before rushing off to central Europe. The disadvantage is that in the summer it arrives at 22 minutes after midnight. But never mind, Colmar's grandest hotel, the Terminus-Bristol, is right opposite the station entrance and there is no need to fret about taxis.

The next morning, connoisseurs of railway architecture will note that Colmar's station is one of the finest examples of its kind, complete with clock tower and apple green roof. Even the *buffet de gare* is worth a look. It is vast for a town of this size, with anterooms off the main restaurant, whose high ceiling comes in a different shade of green, lavatorial this time. Waiters, dozens, passengers eat, reasonably if not exceptionally. It is the ideal setting for a Gallic Brief Encounter.

The recommendation, though, for those using Colmar as a base for a few days in Alsace is to stay at the Champs de Mars. From the outside it has no charm, but it is in a park, the welcome is warm although the restaurant poor, and the rooms (about £20 for a double) are very well appointed. It is also on the edge of the old city. Cross the Place Rapp, pass a sleek-scaled chip shop called L'Ami Fritz (an obscure musical joke, I assume, as the best known opera set in Alsace is Mascagni's *L'Amico Fritz* or *L'Ami Fritz*) and you are there.

Colmar is one of the few Alsatian towns to have emerged virtually unharmed from the last war. The forces of General de Lattre de Tassigny captured it almost intact on February 2, 1945 and that is the way the town council have kept it since. The medieval centre is now almost entirely a pedestrian precinct, with ample displays of *charcuterie* and *foie gras*. In this



WEEKEND BREAKS

part of France, the pig and the goose are the joint gods. Most tourists make for the Unter den Linden Museum - no shortage of German names here - and Grünewald's altarpiece, *le retable d'Issenheim*. But do not forget Colmar's mid-nineteenth century theatre: the sightlines may be poor, but the interior is excellently preserved and there are regular visits from L'Opéra du Rhin based in Strasbourg.



Medieval middle: Colmar's centre untouched by war

This is the tourist Colmar, much visited by coaches from the German side of the Rhine, so avoid bank holidays and especially religious ones when picking your date. The real Colmar is probably found down by the banks of the river in the area called, with a remarkable lack of originality, Petit Venise.

The main reason for visiting Alsace is likely to be gastronomic. Both of France's leading guides, Michelin and Gault Millau, need map enlargements for the area between Strasbourg and Belfort. Colmar's best restaurant by several lengths is Schillinger, unimpressive without but seriously elegant within. The service is beyond criticism and the prices are correspondingly on the high side. A Saturday lunch on the *prix fixe* menu with a bottle of '81 Reisinger from Faller (one of the least known but best of the Alsace houses) cost me 300f

(about £25). It was worth it. To eat on a much more modest scale try La Taupe down near Petit Venise.

Surprisingly Colmar has very few places offering a *dégustation* of the local wines. To do this properly requires a car - local bus services are terrible - and a trip to the hills. Riquewihr is the obvious place to head for. But I have a soft spot for Ribeauvillé and an even softer one for Kayserberg where the Restaurant Chambard and attached hotel have a growing reputation. Gastronomes are well aware of the longstanding rivalry between Ammerschwihr and Illhaeusens, with the latter running ahead at the moment. But some punters reckon that Chambard is coming up on the outside.

For a report on the wines themselves see Jane MacQuitty's column in *Saturday*, April 30. It is rare to find a bad bottle of Alsace, but I would, because of the high acidity of many varieties, counsel not going for the very cheapest. A couple of months ago one of London's leading wine merchants regretted cutting back the number of Alsaces on his list to two because of "lack of consumer interest". He should organize a trip to Colmar immediately to rectify the situation and shame on the consumer!

John Higgins



How to get there by rail, from Victoria, 288 second-class return. Excursion fare £75.50 for minimum stay of five days plus restrictions on trains used. From Paris the journey takes about five hours, using the TEE to Strasbourg and then changing to the Colmar line. By air, Heathrow to Strasbourg using Air France, then by train. The airport at Strasbourg is tiny, sparkling, but the duty-free limited.

COLLECTING

Medalling in modern art and history

The medallion has suffered from a bad reputation for almost 20 years. The pieces of the commercial producers have often shown scant regard to any pretence of artistic achievement.

Medals are such collectable items - but they are also for handling and enjoying. Now the British Art Medal Society offers a limited number of artistic cast bronze medals for sale to its members. The society aims to encourage and promote the work of modern medallists and to see that the medal is more readily accepted as an art form. Members are asked to suggest both themes and medallists, though the society's council has the final word. It is hoped that the society will soon be in a strong enough position to advise institutions or individuals how to commission a medal. It hopes, too, that it will soon be able to sponsor an annual medal competition.

The society is already collaborating with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations in organizing a competition for British artists to produce a medal to celebrate World Food Day on October 16, 1983. For artists members there will be forums to discuss the problems of medal making, and it is hoped that there will be exhibitions of the work commissioned.

The British Art Medal Society held its inaugural meeting in April 1982, and it is now firmly established. In its first year the society commissioned eight medals, and members are obliged to purchase just one each from the annual election. Details of the medals are published and illustrated in a lively bi-annual journal, *The Medal*. There are no restrictions on membership and the individual subscription is £10 a year (corporate members £30). All the medals are sold at the same, eminently collectable price of £22, regardless of the medallist.

So far the small membership has spread its commitment to purchase over the full range available. The most heavily

subscribed medal is one by Ron Dutton, which commemorates the founding of the society, and so far 32 have been sold. The society does not pretend to be in the business of mass-marketing. Nearly all of its bronze medals are cast to order and are truly limited editions.

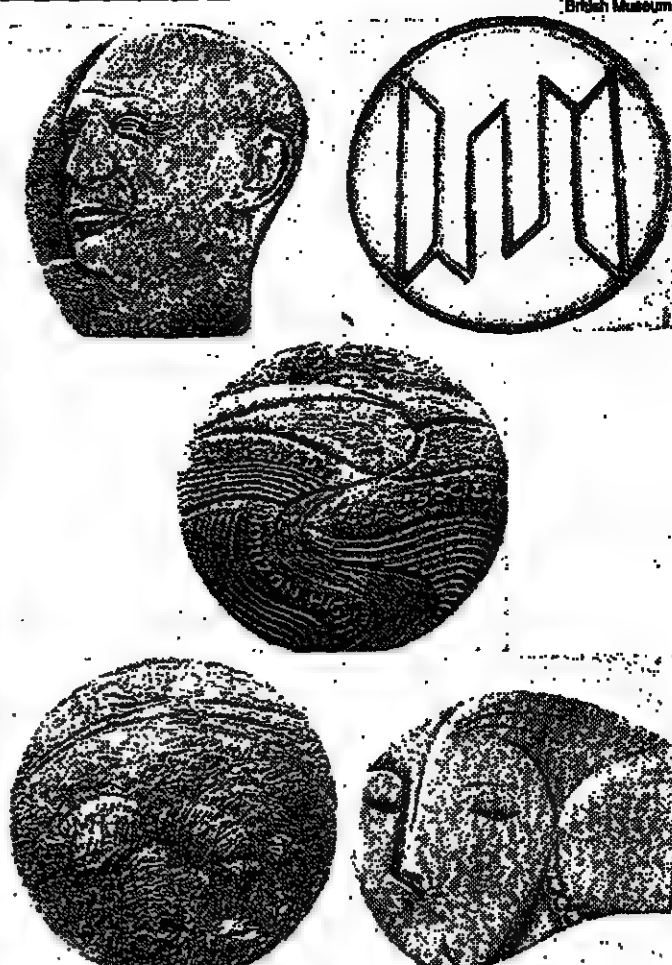
The first eight medals issued illustrate clearly how wide a variation of style, texture and art can be accommodated on a small two-sided piece of bronze. Ron Dutton's medal shows sheep grazing in open moorland, while the reverse dedication to the society follows the plough furrows of an English country scene. Mark Holloway has produced a Muse, a double-sided head, using its own outline as the shape and edge of the medal. While Annabel Eley's carnival theme uses a crowded group of faces for an irregular outline.

Jane McAdam has used much the same restrictions with regard to shape on her portrait medal. Picasso's profile on the obverse forms the reverse outline of a modernist head in the style of Picasso.

Jacqueline Steiger's medal, "Food Furrows", is a wonderfully tactile piece, with deep furrows stretching outwards from a central spine to the edge of the uneven roundish flan. Two medallists, Nigel Hall and John Main, have designed non-representative pieces. Nigel Hall's medal adds a new dimension by being totally openwork, but both make bold use of line and depth.

Finally, Robert Elderton offers a more traditional commemorative medal of the heroine Grace Darling. On the obverse she is shown full face, while on the reverse she and her father row their small cobbler towards the sinking Forfarshire. The raging storm is emphasized by the great depth of the relief, the legend, such as it is, follows the lines of the wind and waves on the reverse.

The standard of all the medals is amazingly high. The society has obviously crossed its first hurdle by showing a serious involvement with artists, en-



Striking examples: Jane McAdam's Picasso (top left) with reverse (bottom right); Nigel Hall's openwork bronze medal (top right); Ron Dutton's Sheep Moor II (bottom left) with reverse (centre)

couraging them to discover the medal as a medium of expression which has for so many years been overlooked in this country.

The British Art Medal Society has as its chairman Mr Graham Pollard, deputy director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, and catalogue of the Renaissance medals in the Kress Collection in Washington. It has the strong support of the Royal Society of Arts and the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, and Wolverhampton Polytechnic prints its journal.

There is no government sponsorship as in France and, curiously, Poland. Sadly this means that the society cannot afford to give examples of the

medals to any national or university museum, though medallists must welcome the freedom of working without the restrictions of officialdom.

Daniel Fearon

Those seeking further information or wishing to join the society should contact Mr Mark Jones, the assistant keeper of the Department of Coins and Medals at the British Museum, who organized the splendid 1978 exhibition, *The Medal - Mirror of History*, and is author of the companion book, *The Art of the Medal* (British Museum Publications, price £9.95). The address to write to is: Mr Mark Jones, Dept of Coins and Medals, The British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1.

EATING OUT

Out for a duck or at least a chicken Kiev

The cricket season is reaching its climax with two finals at Lord's this weekend: the national club championship today and the village cricket final tomorrow. With the outcome of the NatWest trophy also to be decided there next Saturday, we consider two restaurants in the area which might be suitable for post-match celebrations or commiserations.

AU BOIS ST JEAN
122 St John's Wood High Street, London NW8 (722 0400)
Open Sun-Fri noon-2.30pm; daily 7-11.30pm

A straight Botham six over the Nursery End would probably drop on the doorstep of Au Bois St Jean, so it couldn't be more convenient, and the extensive opening times are particularly useful for those dusk finishes

which Lord's seems to specialise in.

The restaurant's basement premises are on the gloomy side but they have made a virtue of this by constructing a sort of rustic Dordogne-barn interior which gives it both charm and atmosphere. Another French adoption is the *prix fixe* menu with two courses costing £6.50 at lunchtime and £8 in the evening, while the three-course selection is £8 for a lunch, £9.50 for a dinner.

There is a good and varied range of hors d'oeuvres embracing the simple terrine de montagne (rough Langue-doe pâté with garlic and whole peppercorns) and the unusual *avocat à la Cannoise*. This is a hot mixture of avocado, crevettes, mushrooms and tomatoes with a dash of pastis which will, depending on your taste, either ruin the dish or make it.

The main courses include French country favourites such as *carré d'agneau*, and there is an excellent *crêpe de poisson gratinée*. The *escalope de veau*

chevalière is not quite so successful, being rather swamped with diced onion.

However, the desserts are delicious, with a storming *tarte tatin* (apple-pie, pan-cooked upside down), and a denture-shattering *crème de cognac brûlée aux amandes* - take along your 3lb bat to deal with this one. House wine is a pleasant blanc de blancs at £4.95.

BARACCA RESTAURANT
3 Circus Road, London NW8 (722 9303) Open Tues-Sun noon-3pm, 6pm-11.30pm (11pm Sun)

While the Au Bois St Jean offers a discreet French ambience, the Baracca trades in rather more strident Italian style. The décor also has a rustic hue with rough plaster walls and a wooden superstructure, but the garish lighting and the presence of a pianist and synthesized drum-machine largely shatter any rural illusions.

The menu is large, about 3½ by 2½ to be exact, and deals in standard Italian and other Continental clichés (beef Stroga-

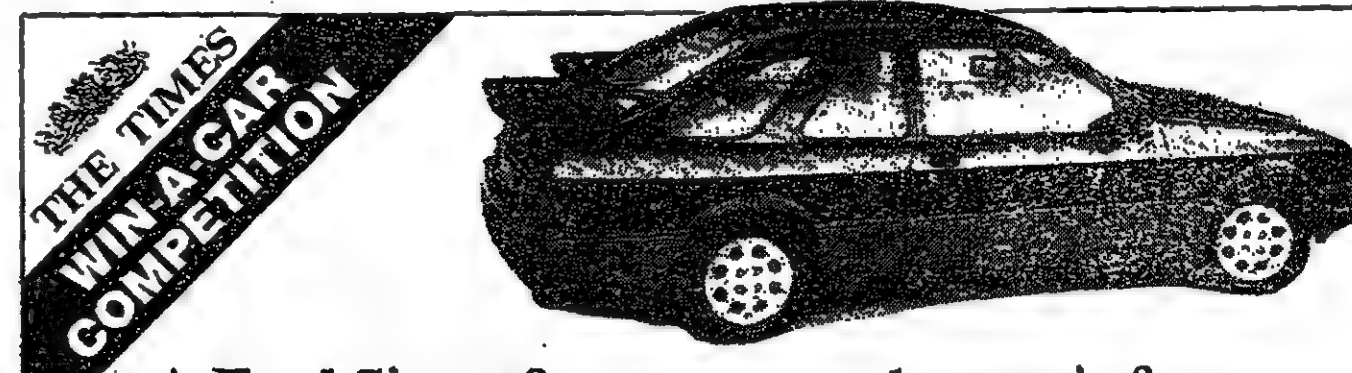
noff £5.30, T-bone steak £6.50). Starters seem fairly unexciting, but the house minestrone (£80p) was packed full of fresh vegetables, while among the pasta alternatives, fettuccine all 'Alfredo' with a delicious white sauce and strongly flavoured with black pepper, was equally successful.

The most popular main course is chicken Kiev - I counted at least 10 of them around me - but you can assert your individuality with a good calf's liver Lyonnaise (liver and onions, £4.50) or a supreme of chicken princess (£3.60).

The sweet trolley is more like the heavy roller, weighed down as it is with cakes, pastries and gateaux, but if the waiter directs you to a rather creamy-looking concoction, framed by flaky pastry, "run one" because it is excellent.

While the food seems honest despite its unadventurous nature, the Baracca struck me as a place to go to in a group - a cricket team perhaps?

Stan Hey



A Ford Sierra for you... and entry is free

How to play

Our summer competition started last week and there's one more week to go after today. So don't miss next week's *Saturday* edition.

● A small section of one of the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map series of a place in the United Kingdom mentioned in *The Times* in the past 10 days is reproduced here.

● All you have to do is identify the place which has been blacked out. Other names nearby have been marked in grey to make the contest more difficult. Fill in

the blacked out name on the dotted line below the map.

● Just in case you missed the first map last week, we have reproduced it below. And here's a clue to help you to identify the first place. It has a connexion with *The Times*.

How to enter
● Collect all three maps (August 20, today, September 3) and send them in to the address given as soon as possible after the last competition ends. The first correct entry opened will win the first prize.

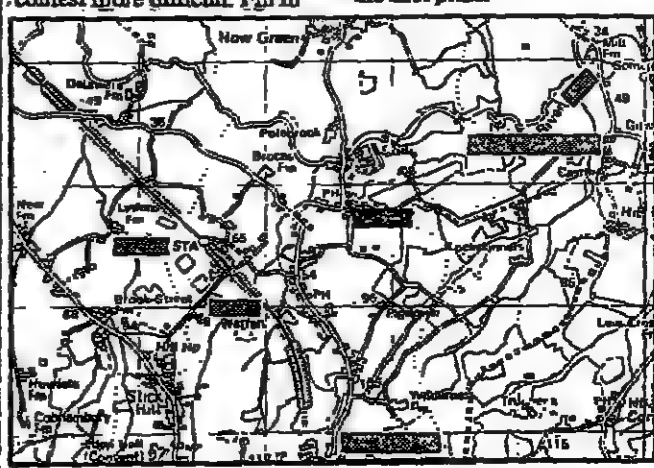
The prizes

- First prize is a Ford Sierra XR4i with a 2.8 litre V6 engine, a maximum speed of 130 mph and a price of £9,170.
- Twenty runners-up will each receive a copy of the new Ordnance Survey Road Atlas of Great Britain (price £7.95), the comprehensive 1/4 inch to the mile hardback atlas.

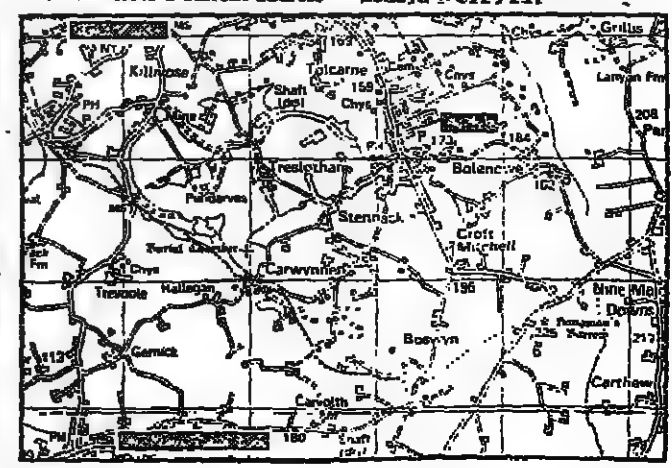
The rules

The competition is open to anyone except employees of *The Times* Newspapers Limited and the Ordnance Survey, and their immediate families. The closing date for entries is Monday, September 12. Competitors should enclose a current address

and telephone number if possible. The Editor's decision in any dispute resulting from the competition will be final. The result and the solution will be given in *The Times* on Saturday, September 17. Entries should be sent to: *The Times* Win-A-Car Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC3N 9YT.



WEEK 1



WEEK 2

Wt	Wt
1.0	1.0
2.0	2.0
3.0	3.0
4.0	4.0
5.0	5.0
6.0	6.0
7.0	7.0
8.0	8.0
9.0	9.0
10.0	10.0

Taking a weight off the backpackers' shoulders

Beryl Downing

By now we had arrived at the bottling line, and there at the end were the dregs of two of the Duke's award-winning Trockenbeerenauslesen. A pint beer mug was produced, and at long last I had my first taste of a great, sweet Riesenland wine.

Joyce MacDonald

Almost twice the price and not necessarily twice the flavor, but considerably cheaper than the German equivalent, is Moser's rich, smokey golden 1976 · Donnerskirchner Welshriesling Trockenbeerenauslese (Victoria Wine \$9.50). But please note that this wine and the 1981 Rustler may well have to be ordered in advance from your local branch and expect delay of a week to 10 days.

Jane MacQuitty

Birth pains of a labour of love

Ashley Stephenson

PREVIEW Music

Concerts

FOUR FROM PROM
Tonight, 7.30pm, Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (S99 6212)
In the first of three notable pianistic Proms this week Philip Fowke plays Richard Strauss's *Burleske* and Weber's *Konzertstück*. The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under Norman Del Mar then performs Hindemith's entertaining *Symphonic Metamorphosis* of Thomas by Weber.

BRAMHMS-SCHOENBERG
Tonight, 7.30pm, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 6544)
Schoenberg's illuminating orchestration of Brahms's G minor Piano Quartet is played by the London Sinfonietta conducted by Simon Rattle. They also offer Haydn's Symphony No 67, and Alfred Brendel solos in Mozart's last piano concerto, K 595.

THE PROUD ARE RISEN
Tonight, 8pm, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford
Some singers called *The Sixteen* give forth with Tomkins's *Oh, God, the Proud are Risen*, Schütz's *Musikalische Exequien*, Byrd's *Laudibus in Sanctis* and Ad Montium cum *Tribulatione*.

DECEPTION PASS
Tomorrow, 3pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 6544)
The Philip Jones Brass Ensemble play Paul Patterson's *Deception Pass* (1981 piece, Prastorius's Terpsichorean Suite, a Handel Concerto and Stravinsky's *Carnival of the Animals*).

MORE BRAHMS
Tomorrow, 8pm, Usher Hall, Edinburgh (031-225 5758)
Pinchas Zukerman and Marc Neljung are heard in an exciting programme of Brahms sonatas: the Violin Sonatas Op 100 and 108, and the viola version of Op 120 No 2.

LAST SOUTH BANK
Tomorrow, 7pm, Festival Hall
In the last concert of the generally disappointing South Bank Summer Music series Simon Rattle directs the City of Birmingham Orchestra in Sibelius's Symphonies Nos 5, 6 and 7. Earlier, at 5.30pm in the Wilton Room, Robert Simpson gives a talk on these works.



Groves Conducting Haydn

KU EBBINGE
Tomorrow, 8pm, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford
Ku Ebbinge plays the oboe of Amore in stirring Telemann Oboe of Amore Concerto, and the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra under Ton Koopman follows with the Overture and Conclusion from the same composer's *Tafelmusik*. Earlier J. S. Bach's Suite No 1 and Brandenburg Concerto No 4 are heard.

AX, KIM, MA
Mon, 11pm, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh (03-225 5758)
Ensemble Ax, Young Uk Kim and Yo Yo Ma reunite for Mozart's Trio K 564, Brahms's Trio Op 8 (the revised version, presumably) and Dvorák's Trio Op 85, all for piano, violin and cello.

BRENDL BEETHOVEN
Mon, 7pm, Albert Hall
Brendel again, this time in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 4. Earlier Sir Charles Groves conducts the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in Haydn's 'Bear' Symphony (No 82).

MOZART AND MAHLER
Mon 8pm, Usher Hall, Edinburgh
The London Philharmonic Orchestra, under Klaus Tennstedt, plays Mozart's Concerto K 218 (Miriam Fried, violin) and Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* (with Brigitte Fassbänder, mezzo soprano, and Hermann Winkel, tenor).

LUTOSLAWSKI'S LIVRE
7.30pm, Albert Hall
Shura Cherkassky solos in Chopin's Concerto No 2 with the BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Richard Hickox, who also has charge of Stravinsky's *Firebird* Suite. Earlier Witold

COCONUTS: KID CREOLE
Tonight, 8pm, Usher Hall, Edinburgh
Reformed to showcase Alvin Lee's Woodstock-style pyrotechnics, Steve Harley will be leading a new Cockney Rebel; and the End promise light relief. Knockabout fun for all ages.

R&B JAMBOREE
Tomorrow, Electric Ballroom, Camden High Street, London NW1
A very promising night indeed, put together by Rock On Records and featuring four American R&B mink legends of the early 1950s. Two are tenor saxophonists: Big Jay McNeely and Chuck Higgins. Two are pianists and singers: Young Jessie and Willie Egans.

HOWLETT as the ambiguous Caribbean folk hero who started the historic slave uprising.

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA
VNO start their Cardiff season on Fri with a new production by John Copley of *Peter Grimes*, with Richard Armstrong conducting a cast which includes John Mitchinson in the title role and Josephine Barstow as Ellen Orford. The company is operating a new subscription package for Wales and for Birmingham and Bristol: write for details of money-saving offers to Welsh National Opera, John Street, Cardiff (0222 40641).

NEW YORK CITY BALLET
Tonight and next Sat, the ENO's *Jewels of the East*, conducted by Peter Robinson, which Paul Schmitts enjoyed earlier this month. Meanwhile, Jonathan Miller's sword-winning *Macbeth* Rigoletto continues its return run, with its original strong cast now conducted by Noel Davies. Coming to a timely revival of David Blake's important dramatic epic, *Toussaint*. Book now for performances on Sept 6, 8, 14, 17 and 23 with Neil

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Lutoslawski is on the podium for his *Livre pour Orchestre* and Cello Concerto (soloist, Norman Jablonski).

PROM 40
7.30, Albert Hall
For the fourth Prom in the current series of 57, Yuri Temirkanov conducts Beethoven's *Coriolanus* Overture, Prokofiev's Symphony No 5, played by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Yo Yo Ma solos in Dvorák's Cello Concerto.

SHURA CHERKASSKY
11pm, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh
Making his first appearance at the Edinburgh Festival in many years, Cherkassky plays a typically wide-ranging programme: the Bach-Busoni Chaconne, Beethoven's Sonata Op 27 No 1, Book 2 of Brahms's Paganini Variations, Scriabin's Sonata No 4 and Berg's Sonata Op 1.

MAHLER AND SCHOENBERG
Thurs, 8pm, Usher Hall, Edinburgh
The strings of the Concertgebouw Orchestra are conducted by Bernard Haitink in Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht*, then the other sections, and Maria Ewing (soprano), join in for Mahler's long Symphony No 4.

FESTIVAL FIREWORKS
Thurs, 10pm, Ross Bandstand, Prince's Street Gardens, Edinburgh (031-225 5758)
With a fireworks display from the Castle, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra under Gustav Kuhn plays Handel's Music for the Royal Fireworks and Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.

MUSSORGSKY'S MOUNTAIN
Fri, 7.30pm, Albert Hall
After Mussorgsky's *Night on the Bare Mountain*, György Pauk solos in Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 1 and Claude Mathieu is the narrator in Stravinsky's rarely performed *Pandora*. David Ashton conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Singers.

MARE NOSTRUM
Fri, 8pm, Usher Hall, Edinburgh
Mauricio Kagel's *Mare Nostrum*, first heard in Berlin in 1975, at last achieves its British premiere, thanks to the Musica series. The performance will be in English, but the production is based on that seen at the Honover Opera in 1981.

reggae band, stand a fighting chance of carving the lot of them to ribbons. But why on a Tuesday?

WELLS/WELLER
Thurs, Seven Dials, 27 Shelton Street, London WC2
On paper, the pairing of those idiosyncratic British tenor saxophonists Don Walker and Bobby Weller should be up there with Hobbs and Sutcliffe, Johnson and Boswell, Woodcock and Birtles. For the Seven Dials Jazz Club, this represents typically imaginative programming.

VAN MORRISON
Fri, Hexagon Theatre, Reading
"Rave on, John Dore", Morrison sang during his last British visit, managing to make perfect sense of the anachronism. Even those who wince at the sight of yet another album-jacket credit to Ron Hubbard will find themselves spellbound by Morrison's current Celtic soul symphony.

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Big shots to reclaim the Twilight Zone



Enough to make you peck: Jeremy Licht and Kathleen Quinlan

Aging science-fiction freaks, late-night television addicts, and devotees everywhere of the American bizarre will be pleased to discover that they are not alone in their predilections. Some of cinema's brightest young things, led by Steven Spielberg and John Landis, have aired their love of one of the best known early television sci-fi series, in a new film version, *The Twilight Zone: The Movie*. The original *Twilight Zone*, the creation of Rod Serling the playwright, was first delivered to a puzzled world in 1959 on CBS, attracting abysmal ratings for its weekly twist-in-the-tale historical.

The format might have come from the series. A lively prologue leads into four separate episodes, each introduced by a portentous voice-over. Spielberg has directed a somewhat mawkish piece, in which he attempts to prove that he can direct old people as well as he can direct children. Fortunately, the other three directors do not seem to have forgotten that the most impressive episodes of the television series were those best appreciated while peering fearfully round the back of the sofa.

Enough to make you peck: Jeremy Licht and Kathleen Quinlan

PREVIEW Films

Films on TV

A monstrous kid who takes his social standards from Warner Brothers cartoons (directed by Landis), a nasty racist getting his come-uppance, and a turn of air-kickness brought about by a rather realistic gremlin attempt to provide the substance. These last two are directed by Joe Dante, the Roger Corman protégé who made *The Howling* and *George Miller*, the Australian creator of *Mad Max*. Whatever else happens to *Twilight Zone: The Movie*, Miller's contribution has barred it from ever playing as in-flight entertainment. One suspects that British Airways would rather risk the outrage of *Alphaville* on its customers than the vivid aeronautical excesses which plague the hapless travellers of Miller's imagination. The spirit of the original series may still be there, and the expensive special effects are definitely not cardboard.

David Hewson

The Twilight Zone - The Movie
Screened on Thurs 10.30pm at ABC Sturgesbury Avenue, Fulham Road, Edgware Road, and Bayswater, Classics Haymarket and Tottenham Court Road; Warner West End; and Studio Oxford Circus. National release from Sept 8.

Negatively speaking, *Gaslight* does not exist. It has nothing to do with scoundrels to say that the supreme gaslight movie, based on the Patrick Hamilton story (2.30-4pm), is possibly the film world's most notable example of two negatives making a positive. Thorold Dickinson's 1939 movie, based on the 1937 Hamilton stage play, was at one time given over for lost. The shocking news that came out of Hollywood in 1944 was that MGM had perpetrated an act of vandalism almost without precedent. Dickinson decided to remake *Gaslight* in 1944, and having acquired the original negative, MGM was reported to have destroyed the negative so that the new version (*Gaslight* in the US, *The Murder in Thornton Square* in Britain) would be around to allow comparisons to be made. Worse, there were rumours that all prints of Dickinson's film had been got rid of, too.

The *Murder in Thornton Square*, directed by George Cukor, was in some ways (acting, script, décor) superior to *Gaslight*. In other ways (essential claustrophobia, camerawork) it was inferior. Then, in the early 1950s, a minor miracle (major miracle by filmstand standards) occurred. Several prints of Dickinson's *Gaslight* turned up in America. Another negative was prepared from them and prints were run off, and soon the film was being re-released throughout the US under yet another title, *Angel Street*.

The reviews were, in the main, wildly enthusiastic. Anton Walbrook, as the husband who tries to drive his wife (Diana Wynyard) insane so that he can get his hands on some hidden jewels, was hailed - for the second time round - as a newcomer of staggering promise. A nonsensical claim, because Walbrook had been adding to his laurels throughout the 1940s with films such as *The Red Shoes*, another Dickinson production. *Gaslight* is a masterpiece of suspense, and *The Murder in Thornton Square* is a masterpiece of suspense. It was screened on BBC2 at 1.50pm on Mon.

Peter Davalle

Also recommended:
American Graffiti (1973): A potent distillation of adolescent high spirits set in a California town during the rock 'n' roll early 1960s, and such a huge box-office success that it gave its director, George Lucas, much of the cash he needed to make *Star Wars* six years later (BBC2, tonight, 11pm-12.55am).
Unfaithfully Yours (1948): Preston Sturges's sharp-as-a-tack comedy about an orchestral conductor (Rex Harrison) who suspects his wife is having second fiddle to the man he is convinced are after his wife (Linda Darnell) (Channel 4, tonight, 11.05pm-12.55am).

Rock & Jazz

KID CREOLE
Tonight, Southampton Gaumont; Mon and Tues, Poole Arts Centre; Thurs and Fri, Edinburgh Playhouse

... and his Coconut, whose well-publicized row with Coati Mundi, Creole's sidekick, may provide a perfect scenario for the entire tour.

ACTUAL FESTIVAL
Today and tomorrow, ICA Theatre, Nash House, The Mall, London SW1 (930 0493)

At 3pm today, the brilliant American soprano saxophonist Steve Lacy appears with Brian Gysin, William Burroughs's sometime-accomplice, and various performance artists. Tonight at 8pm Keith Tippett leads a group made up of five trumpeters and two pianists, no doubt furthering his recent experiments. Tomorrow at 8pm, Fred Frith, the British guitarist now domiciled in lower Manhattan, presents two of his groups, Duck & Cover and Skeleton Crew; at 8pm Lacy reappears as part of an appetizing trio with the pianist Mal Waldron and the saxophonist Steve Potts.

READING ROCK
Today and tomorrow, Thameside Arena, Reading, Berkshire
Today means heavy metal: Black Sabbath, Suzi Quatro, Magnum, Amni and fellows, with the exception of Marlon, whose successful revival of the "progressive rock" of the early 1970s does not, thank goodness, appear to have set a trend. Tomorrow sounds like better fun: Little Steven and the Disciples of Soul may have dumped their horn section, but "Little" Miami Steve Van Zandt will be in charge of a dynamite band. Thin Lizzy promise their final British appearance; Ten Years After have

Opera

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight and next Sat, the ENO's *Jewels of the East*, conducted by Peter Robinson, which Paul Schmitts enjoyed earlier this month. Meanwhile, Jonathan Miller's sword-winning *Macbeth* Rigoletto continues its return run, with its original strong cast now conducted by Noel Davies. Coming to a timely revival of David Blake's important dramatic epic, *Toussaint*. Book now for performances on Sept 6, 8, 14, 17 and 23 with Neil

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA
VNO start their Cardiff season on Fri with a new production by John Copley of *Peter Grimes*, with Richard Armstrong conducting a cast which includes John Mitchinson in the title role and Josephine Barstow as Ellen Orford. The company is operating a new subscription package for Wales and for Birmingham and Bristol: write for details of money-saving offers to Welsh National Opera, John Street, Cardiff (0222 40641).

NEW YORK CITY BALLET
Tonight and next Sat, the ENO's *Jewels of the East*, conducted by Peter Robinson, which Paul Schmitts enjoyed earlier this month. Meanwhile, Jonathan Miller's sword-winning *Macbeth* Rigoletto continues its return run, with its original strong cast now conducted by Noel Davies. Coming to a timely revival of David Blake's important dramatic epic, *Toussaint*. Book now for performances on Sept 6, 8, 14, 17 and 23 with Neil

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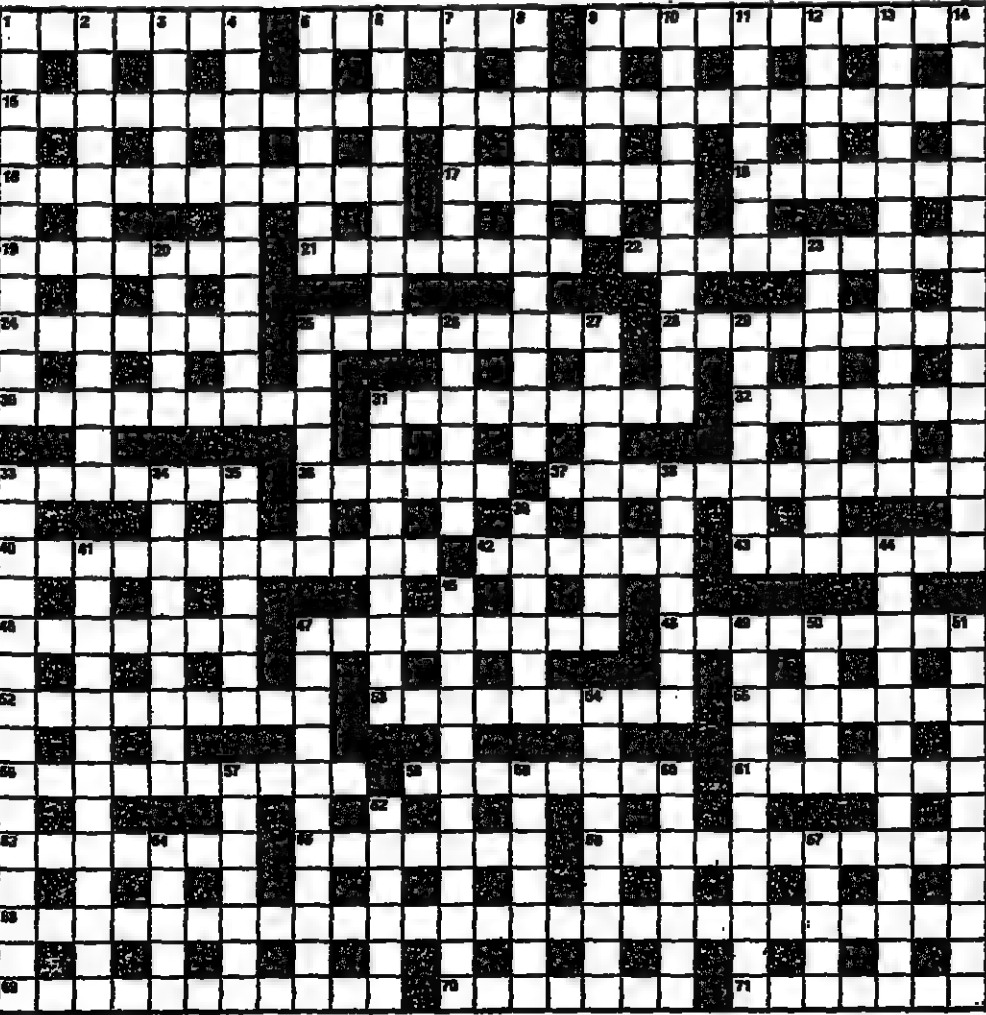
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The Times Jumbo Crossword

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first three correct solutions opened on Tuesday, September 6, 1983. Entries should be addressed to The Times Jumbo Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London, WC9 9YT. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, September 10, 1983.

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| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 What Chaucer did was in a way no use (7)</p> <p>5 Note the song "Sunny places" (7)</p> <p>9 Involves giving pal cosmetic treatment (11)</p> <p>15 Picture the prize won by the Prince of Arragon (3,8,2,1,8,5)</p> <p>16 Checking the others on the throne, say? (11)</p> <p>17 Writer enters dull surroundings of a Dickensian lawyer (7)</p> <p>18 Transmissions to France over this band of frequencies? (7)</p> <p>19 That of tobacco for the makings of a cigarette in general (7)</p> <p>21 A bit of gun, stick, like those in Kipling's garden (8)</p> <p>22 See author, a successful one, embrace love (6,4)</p> <p>24 There it was - that's why one had to tackle it (7)</p> <p>25 Conversely it's one world power in 200 that's resolving cases of conscience (9)</p> <p>26 Central ranking above St James (9)</p> <p>30 Set aside ruin of red revolution, not one being lost (9)</p> <p>31 Offers for consideration - or for money? (9)</p> <p>32 Sort of verses e.g. Alice gets involved in (7)</p> <p>33 OK for drinking, the River Board indicates (7)</p> <p>36 New car tax as Humpty Dumpty's unbirthday present (6)</p> <p>37 Bar course for a singer (7-5)</p> <p>40 Tendency to be roused by way-out talent round about (12)</p> <p>42 Feverishly stirring, the double century I made (6)</p> <p>43 Rejection of the German studies is depressing (7)</p> <p>46 Barker's land register (7)</p> <p>47 Simple vehicle - to make the directors happy (9)</p> <p>48 Battered so inadequately paid has to starve? (9)</p> <p>52 By no means living up to being musically dim (3,4)</p> <p>53 Get back under this cover (9)</p> <p>54 Modifies in order to raise fruit (7)</p> <p>56 Amanda and Miranda for instance (10)</p> <p>58 Places in positions on the line (8)</p> <p>61 What's found in blood-stream of a moorhen perhaps (7)</p> <p>63 Tense into sheep and comes a cropper (5,2)</p> <p>64 Against editor in Baltic port producing old Hindu scripture (3-4)</p> <p>65 Could it be Severnals in NW 52 (7,4)</p> <p>68 Man's wrong, naturally, but may receive mercy from the ultimate tribunal (7)</p> <p>69 How to end the round? A fair way to prove one's strength (4,3,4)</p> <p>70 Skip, say - one having got away (7)</p> <p>71 So we think he did it (7)</p> | <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Revile a tool that's ruined an outstanding work of art (4-7)</p> <p>2 Exaggeration concerning what the bank gives you (13)</p> <p>3 His musical work's taken up over an hour (5)</p> <p>4 Tried revised version - crazy and damaging (11)</p> <p>5 With government controlling everything its mast needs replacement (7)</p> <p>6 Two or more of them in most cases (9)</p> <p>7 Says no concerning current safety precautions (7)</p> <p>8 Sailor on British Rail is this for this (12)</p> <p>9 Sounds cold? Hence peppy (7)</p> <p>10 Extra ones added to form accidental crews (4-7)</p> <p>11 Art-work for E1? Count the change (7)</p> <p>12 Tea all round in the country (5)</p> <p>13 Appropriate means of surveying a ménage à trois? (13)</p> <p>14 Damage avengers consult Wisden to do so? (6,3,6)</p> <p>20 Prince has a large number always in support (5)</p> <p>23 Went back to be ticked off about tree damage (9)</p> <p>25 Final provision of fish here abroad, and Chopin, say? (7)</p> <p>26 This is nothing but a lie on a map (6)</p> <p>27 Kept company with Albert and Edward (9)</p> <p>29 Like the soldiers we will remember, and those in Shangri-la (7)</p> <p>31 Customs sums payable for items bought out of turn (9)</p> <p>33 Conjuror should have high typing speeds? (15)</p> <p>34 But can drink make us so meddlesome? (7,2)</p> <p>35 Trade restriction makes mob rage (7)</p> <p>38 Part of church service, by Whistler or happy (9)</p> <p>39 Steal away like Longfellow's Arabs (6)</p> <p>41 Homer, before including pig in vulture's diet? (7,6)</p> <p>44 Such is the force of the current (13)</p> <p>45 Dublin home for Sygne's playboy (5,7)</p> <p>46 Physique cap is new style - get one, Bruno (6,5)</p> <p>49 Making money in other words, less initial loss requires bravery (11)</p> <p>50 A problem for John Gilpin (5)</p> <p>51 Making out judgements (11)</p> <p>54 Tennis-player before match starts - by whom one is 1 at (7-2)</p> <p>57 Dead end in which I am out of date (7)</p> <p>59 The jam-making trade (7)</p> <p>60 In nurse astir so early? (7)</p> <p>62 A little finger-trouble again distressed the student (6)</p> <p>64 Jack's no great swimmer (5)</p> <p>67 Pretentiousness, we hear, of the estate's new owners (5)</p> |
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Name _____
Address _____



Concise Crossword

Solution in Monday's paper; no prize.

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| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Small compartment (7)</p> <p>2 Stern maindeck (7)</p> <p>3 Algebraic constant (11)</p> <p>15 Three R's (7,3,10)</p> <p>16 Liability acceptor (11)</p> <p>18 Change by stages (7)</p> <p>19 Defensible (7)</p> <p>21 Likely (8)</p> <p>22 Calmly cool (10)</p> <p>24 Heighten (7)</p> <p>25 Courier (7)</p> <p>28 At juvenile prison (2,7)</p> <p>30 Waterproof hat (9)</p> <p>31 Military manoeuvres (9)</p> <p>32 Harmful (7)</p> <p>33 Lively party (5,2)</p> <p>36 Foot arch (6)</p> <p>37 Confidential (5,4,3)</p> <p>40 Deafening (12)</p> <p>42 Stupid (6)</p> <p>43 Colours (7)</p> <p>46 Ill-fated (7)</p> <p>47 Principal yard support (9)</p> <p>52 Naked (2,7)</p> | <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Dishonesty (11)</p> <p>2 Lodging place (8,5)</p> <p>3 Announcer (5)</p> <p>4 Gluttony (11)</p> <p>5 Mast platform (7)</p> <p>6 Lumber (9)</p> <p>7 Memory loss (7)</p> <p>8 Bequeath (5,1,6)</p> <p>9 Sponged (6)</p> <p>10 Musical movements (11)</p> <p>11 Weariness (7)</p> <p>12 Peace mark (6)</p> <p>13 Remove a molar (7,1,5)</p> | <p>14 Railway official (6,9)</p> <p>15 Drunken spree (5)</p> <p>23 Gusty (9)</p> <p>25 Follower of Marx (7)</p> <p>26 Cricket team (6)</p> <p>27 Reverberation (9)</p> <p>28 Stringed instruments (7)</p> <p>29 Vial (9)</p> <p>33 Remain far off (4,2,1,8)</p> <p>34 Divider (9)</p> <p>35 Indicator (7)</p> <p>36 Perform (7)</p> <p>39 Deliver sermon (6)</p> <p>41 Rebuilt (13)</p> <p>42 Secured cell (6,7)</p> <p>45 Subbornness (11)</p> <p>47 Praiseworthy (11)</p> <p>50 Strainer (5)</p> <p>51 Big game (5,6)</p> <p>54 Narrow pennant (9)</p> <p>57 Enriched (7)</p> <p>59 Interpret incorrectly (7)</p> <p>60 Circuit breaker (7)</p> <p>62 Indian dwelling (6)</p> <p>63 Unhappy guests (5)</p> <p>67 Expert (5)</p> |
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Two copies of the New Collins Concise English dictionary will be given for the Concise crossword, which will be appearing in the Saturday section from next Saturday.

Investment
and
FinanceCity Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 722.1 up 4.7
FT Gilt: 79.60 down 0.11
FT All Share: 457.31 down 0.83
Bargains: 18,578
Datastream USM Leaders
Index: 100.58 up 0.58
New York: Dow Jones
Average (latest): 1188.41 up 2.35
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Index 9145.54 down 2.47
Hongkong: Hang Seng
Index 581.80 down 0.11
Amsterdam: 147 up 0.4
Sydney: AO Index 696.7
down 0.8
Frankfurt: Commerzbank
Index 927.50 down 5.80
Brussels: General Index
133.44 down 0.01
Paris: CAC Index 136.7
down 1.0
Zurich: SKA General Index
284 down 1.2

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5015 down 65pts
Index 84.8 up 0.1
DM 4.0070
Fr 12.0500
Yen 369.50
Dollar Index 128.8 up 1.2
DM 2.6830
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.5035
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 0.56122
SDRE 0.69806

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9½
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week
fixed 9½
3 month interbank 9-9 5/13
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10½-10¾
3 month DM 5½-5¾
3 month Fr 15¼-15½
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9½
Treasury long bond 103½-103¾
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period July 6 to August
2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$419.25 pm \$417.00
close \$417.75
New York latest: \$417.00
Kruggerand (per cent):
\$430.50-432.00 (\$287-288)
Sovereigns (new):
\$98.25-99.25 (\$65.50-66.25)
Excludes VAT

NOTEBOOK

L. M. Ericsson, the Swedish electronics group, reported that net earnings per share rose by a quarter in the first half-year to Skr10.8. Pretax profits reached Skr758m (\$54m) compared with Skr676m. The company normally does better in the second half and should be helped by the devaluation of the Krona and improving North American sales.

Wagon Finance, the Sheffield hire purchase house, raised interim pretax profits from £257,000 to £457,000. But the company does not expect this rate of increase in the second half. The market was disappointed and marked the shares down 9p to 45p.

Bermuda stake
for Fraser

House of Fraser is paying £30,000 for a 2.77 per cent stake in Hopewell International, the off-shore reinsurance company, in Bermuda. Hopewell has taken part of the store's group risk on its £1bn insurance on properties for nearly three years.

Volvo of Sweden has sold 28 purpose-built police cars to Saudi Arabia in its largest foreign order for the model. The order is thought to be worth about 20m to 25m kroner (£1.7 to £2.2m).

Middle East Airlines 1982 annual report shows a net loss of \$40m (£27m) because of the fighting in Lebanon and particularly the closure of Beirut international airport for 115 days.

South Africa's trade surplus more than doubled to R396.1m (£35.2m) last month from June's R242.8m. July's exports rose to R1.72bn from R1.69m in June, while imports fell to R1.13bn from R1.45bn.

ICI Australia is to make a one-for-three rights issue of 1.00 shares at \$1.60 each to raise \$1.6m. The issue of 61.67 million shares will raise \$98.7m (£58m).

BSC could be main beneficiary of second phase

British companies poised to win
£1bn North Sea oil contracts

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

British industry is poised to win more than £1bn worth of business from a revitalized North Sea oil industry.

Contracts worth more than £2bn are about to be placed as the North Sea industry enters the second phase of its development. British Steel, which this week reopened its Hartlepool pipeworks to meet a North Sea order from Shell, could be the main beneficiary.

The rig and platform-building industry, which has been starved of orders for five years and has laid-off several hundred skilled workers, will be invited to tender for three big contracts. The contracts are for the second phase of the Marathon

Brace oilfield, a development of the Beatrice oilfield and, significantly, the programme to prolong the life of the Norwegian Ekofisk oilfield.

The Marathon order could be worth £1bn to the offshore industry. Marathon anticipates that as much as 74 per cent could be met by British companies. The Norwegian order involves 40,000 tonnes of steel fabrication because of the size of the contract, the Ekofisk group will have to go outside Norway for the first time.

British industry is well placed to meet the Norwegian order on costs and delivery terms, but faces opposition from the Dutch who have also seen their

offshore industry's order-book contract. The southern North Sea gasfields are also entering a new phase of development, with orders for pipe-line equipment and production-platform supplies about to be placed.

The World Petroleum Companies, which open in London tomorrow, will underline the importance of North Sea technology to the world oil business. With Britain moving into deep water exploration, new techniques are being sold to foreign oil industries, bringing in substantial foreign earnings.

Oil officials from China, which has already awarded the first three offshore exploration

contracts to companies with substantial British involvement, will be among the 3,000 world energy delegates from 80 countries attending the Congress.

This is the first time that the Congress has been held in Britain: since the inaugural meeting in 1933, it will be officially opened by the Prince of Wales at the Albert Hall, before it moves to the Barbican for the week's working sessions.

The Prince will be presented with the honorary fellowship of the Institute of Petroleum by its president, Mr Alan Gregor, chairman of BP Oil.

The Chinese oil minister will take part in discussions later in the week and the Russian

minister of Energy will also take part in technical discussions. Papers will be presented by 135 oil industry experts, and 53 technical sessions will discuss how the oil industry can help the world economy in the coming years.

One session will attempt to answer the question: "Just how much oil is there really left?"

The president of the Congress, Dr W von Ilseman, of West Germany, said yesterday: "The proceedings will produce a comprehensive picture of the ways in which petroleum technology can assist in shaping industry as we move into the 21st century."

Bournes losses put
Raybeck into red

By Jonathan Clark

The spiralling losses of Bournes, the Oxford Street department store, forced Raybeck into the red last year.

Raybeck, built up by Mr Ben Raven, its chairman, includes the Lord John, Lady at Lord John and Berkatex chains of shops, lost £1.4m against profits of £115,000 when property profits of £973,000 (£292,000 last time) are stripped out.

Even at the pretax level the company saw a turnaround in its fortunes of nearly £1m from profits of £507,000 to a loss of £457,000.

Bournes has been a millstone for Raybeck almost since it was acquired for £12m in 1978.

The costs to Raybeck have increased further over the last year because a deal with institutions to buy it fell through at the last minute. The closure of the store had already been announced but the failure of the sale meant that it had to keep trading leading to losses about "the longest ever closing down sale".

Raybeck had to keep paying rent of £900,000 for an extra year until Bournes finally closed last Saturday.

But the premature announcement of closure affected turnover and is reflected in the figures published yesterday. Bournes will be paid £400,000 for its lease by the freeholders, Equitable Life and Scottish Amicable, two life assurance companies.

The £400,000 will offset the



Raven: Bournes was a millstone for Raybeck.

Raybeck Year to 30.4.83
Pretax: loss £457,000 (profit £507,000)
Turnover: £88m (£92m)
Net total dividend nil (2.28p)
Share price 34p (no change)

closure costs of Bournes to give a net extraordinary debit of £1.7m.

Bournes, formerly called Bourne & Hollingsworth, was hit by the decline of Oxford Street as tourists drifted away and higher prices after VAT increased.

Retail sales, boosted throughout May, June, July and August, should make Raybeck profitable this year and could return it to the dividend list.

BPCC bid
tactic to be
examined

By Andrew Cornelius

The Takeover Panel is investigating complaints about the tactics adopted by Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing & Communication Corporation in its attempt to win control of John Waddington, the Monopoly games company.

The complaints were made by Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank advisers to Waddington. They claim that BPCC representatives had phoned Waddington shareholders claiming that BPCC had a higher percentage of acceptances for its bid than the true figure. If this were true it would represent a serious breach of Rule 24 of the City Takeover Code which lays down the ground rules governing declarations on acceptances during a bid.

Last night Mr John Higgett, director general of the Panel, said that he was treating the complaints "very seriously". However, he said that no decision would be taken on whether to call a full meeting of the Panel to investigate the complaint until he had received written evidence from three Waddington shareholders who claim to have been called by BPCC representatives last Thursday evening.

Mr Victor Watson, chairman of Waddington, first drew attention to the complaint after speaking to Mrs Jane Whitley, a Waddington shareholder living in Yorkshire. Mr Watson said that Mrs Whitley claimed to have received a phone call on Thursday from someone claiming to represent BPCC.

According to Mr Watson the caller claimed that BPCC had won acceptances representing 49.1 per cent of Waddington's share capital.

However, BPCC announced yesterday that it is extending its takeover offer for Waddington until September 7. The offer was due to close today.

Meanwhile, Waddington claimed to have the support of more than half of its shareholders against Mr Maxwell.

Waddington said that it had been notified of withdrawals totalling 6.8 per cent of its shares from shareholders who had previously accepted BPCC offer terms.

BPCC countered with the news that it had received more acceptances for its offer and now owns or controls 43.7 per cent of the Waddington shares.

Pound slips further
against dollar

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Sterling recovered ground against continental currencies yesterday but was slightly down against a strong United States dollar.

After its bout of weakness because of poor July trade figures, the pound climbed back against the Deutschmark through DM4, although dealers said that covering of short positions accounted for part of the rise.

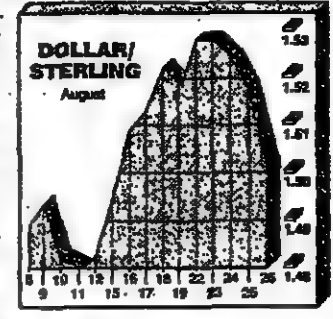
Sterling closed up just over 3 pence against the French franc at FF12.05. Its trade-weighted value was up 0.1 at 84.8.

However, against the dollar, sterling slipped 65 points to \$1.5015 having fallen below \$1.50 earlier in the day. The dollar's strength reflected the usual end-of-week jitters over yesterday's US money supply figures.

Although another fall in M1 had been widely expected during the week, the Federal Reserve's action on Thursday to tighten liquidity led to fears that the money supply could be worse than previously expected.

At one stage the dollar moved above DM2.67, but it closed at DM2.6630, and nearly 7 cents firmer against the French currency at FF8.0125.

Dealers said the dollar was also helped by remarks from the West German Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl, that United States interest rates, and the dollar would stay high until next year's United States presidential elections.



The Federal Reserve's action in Thursday pushed up the key Fed funds rate, which at one stage during the week had slipped below 9 per cent. Yesterday, Fed funds moved back to around 9 3/8 per cent compared with 9 1/8 per cent on Thursday.

There was also some firming of Eurodollar interest rates yesterday. Although rates closed below their high points, there were net gains of 1/8 to 1/16 per cent.

The United States basic money supply is estimated to have declined by \$800m in the week ending August 17, according to the average of forecasts of 15 leading economists surveyed by Dow Jones Capital Markets Report.

A drop of \$300m in M1 would put the narrow money measure within the Federal Reserve's new target range for the first time. The Fed's long-run M1 growth target is 5 to 9 per cent for the rest of the year.

WALL STREET

Recovery
after sharp
Dow fall

New York (Reuters) - Prices fell sharply in early trading yesterday as investors reacted to news of tighter monetary policy.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 6.20 points to 1178.86 the first 45 minutes of trading but rose 2.35 points. Volume totalled about 12 million shares.

Eastman Kodak was down 2-4 at 65-3-4 after a rise of 1-7-8 yesterday. After the close yesterday Kodak said it would show a profit improvement next year. It said margins and profits during the second half of this year were being squeezed by the rise in the US dollar.

International Business Machines was up 1-3 at 49 Lockheed up 1 at 107 General Motors up 1 at 67-7-8 NCR up 1-3-8 at 115-1-4 Teletype up 5 at 155-1-8 Rohm and Haas up 1-1-4 at 71-1-4 Alcan Aluminia up 1-1-3 at 36-1-8 and Northwest Industries up 1-1-8 at 41-5-8.

Atlantic Richfield was 49-3-4 unchanged Allied Corp 50 up 1-8 Lorain Corp 52-1-2 down 1-3-4 American Boring down 3-8 down 1-5-8 Eastman Kodak 66-3-8 down 2-4 Zayre Corp 42-3-4 up 1-7-8 Mobil 32-3-8 unchanged American Telephone and Telegraph 65-1-8 up 3-8 and General Electric 47-1-2 up 1-4.

Meriden dream ends at last

The Triumph Motor Cycle worker co-operative at Meriden, near Coventry, was finally wound up yesterday. Two hundred creditors including many former employees, approved the appointment of joint liquidators.

The co-operative has debts of £38m and assets of no more than £1.2m.

Mr Alastair Jones, one of the liquidators, said that on the

basis of the figures presented at yesterday's two-hour meeting, the many unsecured creditors, who are owed more than £2.5m, would not receive anything from their investment. The only secured creditor, NatWest, is owed £1.3m but how much it will get back depends on the sale of the site.

Triumph directors have received several offers, one believed to be of about £1m

from builders who want to turn the site into a housing estate.

The 180 workers at the factory, which has not produced a motor-cycle since February, decided two weeks ago that all hope of salvaging the business had gone and voted to call in a liquidator.

It was one of several co-operatives established in the 1970s when Mr Wedgwood Benn was Industry Secretary. One by one, the others fell by the wayside.

AN OFFER FROM M&G
UNIT TRUSTS

Unit trusts provide the best way for most people to share in the rewards and risks of the stock market. They are run by full-time professionals and the risks are minimised by investing in a wide spread of shares, held by a Trustee.

Unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice. The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

M&G (who founded unit trusts in Britain) are involved in the management of funds totalling some £1,500 million. The six Funds below may have particular appeal in the present investment climate.

AMERICAN SMALLER COMPANIES FUND A new Fund with the sole objective of long-term capital growth through investment in companies which are small today but have the potential for growth into the household names of tomorrow. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank Plc. Redemptions: 7th March and 7th September, starting on 7th March 1984.

COMPOUND GROWTH FUND The Fund invests for capital growth in a compact portfolio of shares in companies with proven management. Its results have been outstanding. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank Plc. Redemptions: 7th March and 7th September, starting on 7th March 1984.

JAPAN AND GENERAL FUND Invests in a wide range of Japanese securities, embracing all aspects of the economy; the sole objective is long-term capital growth, although its performance may be superior when the Japanese economy is strong. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank Plc. Redemptions: 25th February and 25th August, starting on 25th February 1984.

RECOVERY FUND Invests for capital growth in companies which have fallen on hard times, a "speculative" policy which has proved surprisingly successful in the past. Losses must be accepted when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank Plc. Redemptions: 25th February and 25th August, starting on 25th February 1984.

GOLD AND GENERAL FUND A new Fund investing for capital growth through a portfolio of gold and other precious metals; the performance may be superior when the price of gold is high. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank Plc. Redemptions: 25th February and 25th August, starting on 25th February 1984.

AMERICAN SMALLER CO'S FUND Invests in a wide range of American securities, embracing all aspects of the economy; the sole objective is long-term capital growth, although its performance may be superior when the American economy is strong. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank Plc. Redemptions: 25th February and 25th August, starting on 25th February 1984.

RECOVERY FUND Invests for capital growth in companies which have fallen on hard times, a "speculative" policy which has proved surprisingly successful in the past. Losses must be accepted when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank Plc. Redemptions: 25th February and 25th August, starting on 25th February 1984.

GOLD AND GENERAL FUND A new Fund investing for capital growth through a portfolio of gold and other precious metals; the performance may be superior when the price of gold is high. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank Plc. Redemptions: 25th February and 25th August, starting on 25th February 1984.

AMERICAN SMALLER CO'S FUND Invests in a wide range of American securities, embracing all aspects of the economy; the sole objective is long-term capital growth, although its performance may be superior when the American economy is strong. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank Plc. Redemptions: 25th February and 25th August, starting on 25th February 1984.

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Mexico signs \$11bn debt pact

By Our Banking Correspondent

The first stage of a \$20bn (£13.3bn) public sector debt rescheduling for Mexico was being signed in New York yesterday between Mexican officials and more than 300 commercial bank creditors.

The signing involved rescheduling of \$11.3bn of debts of the three largest Mexican government agencies, Pemex, the national oil company, Nacional Financiera and United Mexican States.

The debts falling due between August 1982, and December, 1984, are being stretched out over eight years and interest is being charged at 1.875 per cent

over London interbank offers rate (Libor) or 1.75 per cent over the American prime rate.

Similar agreements are expected to be signed over the next month for the other Mexican government agencies, completing one of the largest rescheduling deals yet.

Bankers face further complex negotiations on rescheduling \$14bn of Mexican private sector debts, but the public sector signing is a further indication of progress on resolving Mexico's problems. Its total debts, estimated at about \$92.5bn bridging loan to the Bank for International Settlements and repaid

a similar amount to the US Treasury.

Commercial banks are expected to hold further difficult talks with Brazilian officials in New York next week on a second big rescue package for the country. However, Brazil is now believed to have completed negotiations with the International Monetary Fund on a new economic programme, thus removing one obstacle.

Reports from New York said that Brazil will soon sign a new letter of intent with the IMF and this could clear the way for further loan disbursements to Brazil.

Fine Fare's only department store sold

ABF breaks link with its past

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Associated British Foods is selling its only department store, the Welwyn Department Store in Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, where the Weston family started to build the retailing empire which now includes the Fine Fare grocery chain.

The department store, which is on a long lease, is going to the John Lewis Partnership.

John Lewis already operates 20 department stores and the Watstone grocery chain. More than £5m is being paid for the store, it is believed.

The store, which is likely to keep its name under the John Lewis regime, was acquired by ABF more than 30 years ago. Mr Garfield Weston, who then

headed the company, bought a local, mainly grocery chain which also owned the department store, then about 10 years old.

The name of the local chain was Fine Fare. According to an ABF director, Mr Wallace Monaghan: "The department store was something of a sentimental link because of all this."

ABF had not planned to sell the store, which has been trading profitably with an annual turnover of £13m. John Lewis made the first approach.

Mr Monaghan said: "It obviously makes sense for it to be in a larger department store group where buying power is maximized."



Weston: Sentimental link

more than 560 outlets, with Mr Garfield Weston chairman of the group.

When the sale goes through in October John Lewis plans to maintain the present staff of 350 full-time and 250 part-time.

While trading continues, the store will undergo extensive refitting. The refitting is expected to take about a year during which the store will run as a separate company. After that John Lewis expects to take the store and its employees into its partnership scheme.

John Lewis has been expanding its department store chain gradually, buying a Bristol store from Sears Holdings in 1981 and Bonds of Norwich last year. It also opened a John Lewis store at Peterborough last year.

Brilliant

In final
From Sydney Friskin,
Amsterdam

The Soviet Union, qualified for the final of the European championship for the first time yesterday by beating Spain 4-2. They could, on this brilliant form, put themselves on the road to Los Angeles for next year's Olympic Games. They led 2-0 at half time.

On the home front, Norman Hughes - the England captain,

The most useful thing he did was to put the ball in the goalmouth from a long corner and in the scramble Francis pushed the ball over the line to win the match for England in the last minute of extra time. Francis had made a dramatic entrance as a substitute six minutes before the end to score the equalizer.

...going very well. They had taken the lead through Leiper who converted a short corner in the 16th minute and they survived the

The Scots, who always looked superior, attacked with a fine display to win, but they had a chance of winning in the last three minutes of extra time when they forced a short corner from which Taylor in the England goal saved well.

In the end, however, a misunderstanding in defence between Pappin, the Scottish goalkeeper, and McPherson, the short corner taker, from which England won the match. England now play France today for fifth place.

Newmarket

RESULTS: European championship basketball matches for 6th to 12th place: Wales 0, France 2; 10th to 11th place: France 0, Belgium 2; 8th to 9th place: England 2, Scotland 1; Belgium 1, France 2.

Newmarket selections

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Oakland Athletics 8, Cleveland Indians 1; Minnesota Twins 5, Boston Red Sox 2; New York Yankees 7, Seattle Mariners 4; Milwaukee Brewers 7, California Angels 1; Baltimore Orioles 2, Toronto Blue Jays 1 (10 innings); Detroit Tigers 10, Chicago White Sox 1; Kansas City Royals 3, Texas Rangers 1 and 5-4.

Newcastle

[illegible]

FLUTE (D) S Norton 9-4 _____
BASS (D) A. Janda 9-2 _____

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WOODWARD FESTIVAL
Being: Straight Course, Good, Round
Course Good to Firm

[illegible]

One busy day in the life of a girl apprentice jockey

By John Karter

The tale of beauty and the beast has taken a new turn with Gay Kelleway's arrival among the ranks of the professional jockeys.

Since intruding on this male-dominated sphere two months ago, the 19-year-old daughter of Paul Kelleway, the Newmarket trainer and former leading National Hunt rider, has swiftly shown Messrs Piggott, Carson and Eddery that a woman's touch can do as much for a highly-strung racehorse as mere muscle. As recently as Thursday Miss Kelleway beat Carson and Eddery with a perfectly-judged finish on her father's promising filly, Gilt Star, at Brighton.

Her trainer, who said: "We shall have to call her 'Scobie' (referring to Scobie Breasley, the legendary Australian rider)... that's the way he used to come and win his races."

However, Miss Kelleway's celebrations were short-lived as the Jockey Club, the ruling body of the sport, announced that they would be lodging an objection against her last four winners (including Gilt Star). This is because, having ridden 10 winners as an amateur, Miss Kelleway had claimed an apprentice allowance greater than she was entitled to (that is to say 7lb instead of 5lb). Miss Kelleway is certainly bred for the job. Her father included the winners of the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Champion Hurdle in his many successes over jumps and her mother was a leading point-to-point rider.

Her two brothers help with all aspects of work in the stables, as does Miss Kelleway, who rises at 5.30 every day to muck out the horses and ride them out to exercise before setting off to compete at various racecourses up and down the country.

Photographs, David Cairns



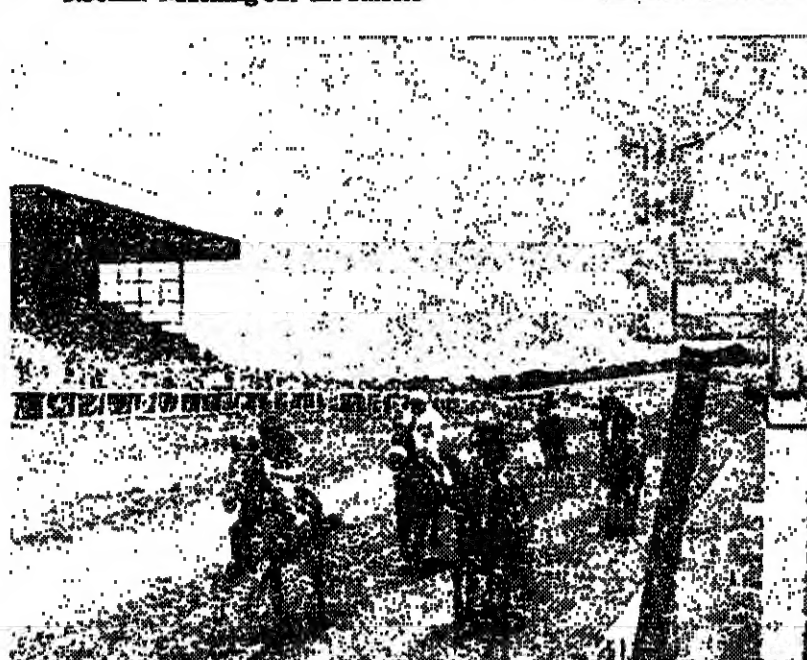
5.30am: 'Mucking out' the stables



Exercise time: Off to the gallops



Weighing in at Brighton Racecourse



The winner - ahead of Carson and Eddery



After the race - a word of congratulation, then back to work

Reagan puts off reelection decision

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

President Reagan has decided to delay announcing whether or not he intends to seek a second presidential term until the end of November or even early December, according to White House sources.

The President has been expected to make his decision known soon after the September 5 Labour Day holiday, on his return to Washington from his ranch in California. However, he has told his aides he will not make a formal announcement until after his return from a tour of the Far East in mid-November.

The delay has once again fuelled speculation about his plans for next year's elections. The overwhelming feeling among members of his staff and Republican Party leaders is that he will seek a second term. Many of his closest advisers have said so publicly.

This view has been reinforced by the President's decision this week to give his tacit approval for the formation of a reelection committee to plan his campaign if he decides to run again.

The President reportedly told his advisers he had no objection to the committee's formation so long as he was not forced to commit himself until after his return from the Far East.

But a nagging doubt persists in the minds of some of his advisers that Mr Reagan, who will be 74 next year, may decide against seeking a second term. It is pointed out that if he does intend to stand down he would delay his announcement as long as possible to avoid becoming a "lame duck" President too soon.

Mr Reagan, who has been interrupting his summer holidays this week by making a series of speeches along the West Coast, has carefully avoided making his intentions known even to his closest advisers. But in his recent public appearances he has looked more like a candidate trying to woo voters than a President trying to explain policy.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagement
The Duchess of Gloucester, as

Patron, attends a Summer Fete organized by Gloucester Guardians, in Peterborough, 3.
New exhibitions
Work by Karen Ray and Stuart

Solution of Puzzle No 16,213
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